

Truman Weighs T-H Against Steel Strike; President Wants Taxes Increased Again

WASHINGTON, June 19.—President Truman disclosed today that he is considering use of the Taft-Hartley law to break the nationwide steel strike. Truman told his weekly news conference he has been considering use of the Taft-Hartley law to break the machinery for some time. The President said he doubted that the steel workers would abide by an injunction. At least he thought they would not go back to work as promptly under Taft-Hartley as they did when he took over the plants on April 8 to prevent a strike.

The strike began on June 2, minutes after the Supreme Court overturned the seizure as unconstitutional.

The Senate tacked a rider to its controls bill "requesting" Truman to get a Taft-Hartley court order against the 650,000 CIO United Steelworkers. The House, which started voting on its controls bill today, is expected to follow suit.

Truman said the steel strike is becoming very serious and will affect every industry in the country if it continues.

Acting arms mobilizer John R. Steelman and other government officials were putting the finishing (Continued on Page 6)

WASHINGTON, June 19.—President Truman said today that taxes should be increased to meet the federal deficit and took a cynical dig at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Sen. Robert A. Taft for promising tax reductions if elected President.

Taft has pledge to cut taxes 15 percent in two years if he wins the Republican Presidential nomination and if elected President in November. Eisenhower has called for a \$40,000,000,000 cut in federal spending with corresponding tax slashes.

Truman told his news conference that no Republican or Democratic President could cut taxes 15 percent because it would put the country in more of a hole than it is now. He said jocularly that he could not make such a statement because he is not running for public office.

In fact, the President said, taxes should be raised to meet the deficit. Latest Treasury figures show a fiscal 1952 deficit of \$7,472,688,183. In his January budget message, Truman forecast a deficit of \$8,201,000,000 for this fiscal year.

Congress has voted three tax increases totalling about \$14,000,000,000 since the start of the Korean war.

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City Officials Spurned Warning Month Ago On B'klyn Firetrap

By MICHAEL SINGER

The Board of Estimate and the City Council spurned warnings by Mrs. Bernice Libuser, chairman of the Brooklyn Tenants Council, last month that failure to restore budget cuts in the Housing and Building Department appropriations would "result in death and tragedy to families now living in fire-trap tenements."

MURDER IN BROOKLYN

An Editorial

IT WAS MURDER. Murder in a blazing inferno from which the screams of three Puerto Rican mothers and four children could be heard as the flames consumed them. Afterwards only charred remains were found. More children, more families would have perished had it not been for the courage of another tenant at 1101 Bedford Ave., Leroy Fredericks, a Negro veteran, who risked his life to bring out the other families.

The responsibility for these horrible deaths lies at the door of the City Administration and of the landlord. They knew 1101 Bedford Ave. in the heart of jimcrowed Bedford-Stuyvesant, was a firetrap.

The City Department of Housings and Buildings knew it for four years. They knew that building could go up in flames at any time. And finally it happened.

A complaint had been entered with the Department of Housings and Buildings four years ago after a small fire broke out in which, fortunately, nobody was injured. The ramshackle tenement lacked fire-retarding stairwells and walls and a fire escape. But nothing was done to correct it.

The department admits that it had sent out a number of routine admonitions to install fire safeguards since then. But still the violations were permitted to continue. Only one month ago petitions had been circulated and sent to the department complaining about the landlord's gouging practices.

Why was nothing done? How many more children, (Continued on Page 5)

This warning was recalled yesterday by Mrs. Libuser and enraged working-class families as they mobilized against more holocausts like that which killed seven Puerto Rican mothers and their children in the tinder-box murder at 1101 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, early Wednesday morning.

While Housing and Building Commissioner Bernard J. Gillroy and his Brooklyn superintendent Benjamin Saltzman were alibing four years of failure to force fire-escape installations in the neglected structure, and Mayor Impeller was holding hurried conference at City Hall to get "reports" the Brooklyn Tenants Council was alerting the borough to action.

In Brownsville, where eight fires in four weeks this year have taken the lives of two children and seriously injured seven; in Williamsburg where two women were burned to death several weeks ago in a tenement blaze; in Coney Island, Red Hook, Greenpoint, and particularly in the tinder-box Negro community of Bedford-Stuyvesant, tenants were massing for immediate prosecution of landlords who have failed to comply with housing regulations.

Mrs. Bessie Honig, owner of the death-trap at 1101 Bedford (Continued on Page 6)

BIG PACKINGHOUSE RALLY PLEDGES STEEL STRIKE AID

By CARL HIRSCH

CHICAGO, June 19.—Packinghouse workers here enlisted themselves in the steel workers' struggle to win their strike, at a huge rally in the stockyards here today.

"The steelworkers' fight is our fight," declared CIO United Packinghouse Workers district director Harold Nielsen, at the noon-time rally in the center of the yards.

Grover R. Hathaway, secretary-treasurer of the UPWA, declared that the entire international union is backing the steel strike.

The rally voted to take a collection at each plant gate to aid the steelworkers.

Armour Local president Leon Beverly, pointing out that the Packinghouse Workers are also entering a major fight to improve their contract, declared:

"All of labor is facing a line-up of employers who are on the war path throughout the world and here at home. They are united—and it's time that labor learned the same lesson."

Thousands of workers from all unions in this area are planning to attend a rally in support of the steelworkers this Sunday 2 p.m. in the Gary Municipal Auditorium. Philip Murray will be the main speaker.

REP. POTTER REDBAITS STEEL STRIKE

DETROIT, June 19.—Rep. Charles B. Potter (R), automobile manufacturers' candidate for U. S. Senator from Michigan, has attacked the strike of the steel workers here and charges the usual "Communist plot."

In a red-baiting tirade, which the anti-labor press gives front-page publicity, the anti-labor Congressman, in his efforts to get elected to the U. S. Senate charges that the steel workers union here is "Communist dominated." It's a well known fact that the local steel workers union here, under the regional directorship of Thomas Shans, nephew of Steel Union president, Phil Murray, is among the most conservative groups of organized labor here.

Potter, of course, gives no support to the just demands of the steel workers, but threatens to "investigate" the entire steel union here for "Communists."

Union Square Rally Held for Labor Solidarity

As this edition of the Daily Worker went to press, unionists and others were entering Union Square for the rally in solidarity with the steel strikers and in defense of labor's rights.

A later edition will carry an account of the rally.

Acheson Opens U.S. to Daughter Of Nazi Criminal

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Secretary of State Dean Acheson personally has reversed a decision that would have prevented Hilde Speer, daughter of a Nazi war criminal, from coming to the U. S., it was disclosed today.

Wisconsin U. Students Bring Peace Petition to White House

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Three University of Wisconsin students stopped off at the White House yesterday to leave a petition calling for immediate big power meetings on world peace. The students, Arnold Lieber, Henry Wortis and Helene Munchick, were members of a delegation appointed to present the bound petition to President Truman.

The campus group, called the Committee for Big Power Negotiations, said 2,190 students signed the petition.

A Block of Death-Traps Where Fire Killed Seven

By JOHN HUDSON JONES

People were staring at the gutted tenement at 1101 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon. Passersby, bus and taxi passengers and people from slow-moving automobiles shook their heads in sympathetic horror at the scene of the fire tragedy that claimed seven lives early Wednesday morning.

But more horrible are the next-door firetraps, where Negro tenants are still living in dangerous conditions. For the ugly two-story buildings in that block are identical to 1101.

Wooden police barriers surrounded 1101 and 1105. I was looking for Leroy Fredericks, Negro hero of the fire, to interview him. He had lived at 1105. But the top floor was gutted, and the doorway to the first floor apartment was blocked by a mountain of debris as I walked gingerly over the water-soaked and sagging wooden stairs and hallway.

A fierce rainstorm blew up suddenly, and I fled to the candy store at 1095. The Negro woman proprietor heard me telephoning the city desk I couldn't find Fredericks.

"He's living in one of those buildings along there," she volunteered.

While the rain came down, she talked with another customer who said, "I hope they catch that landlord and give her the works. I hope they put all landlords in jail that do what she did."

"It's a wonder the wind doesn't blow all these old crackerboxes over," the candy store lady said. I tried 1099 first. The stairs are creaking and the hall littered.

A Negro woman with a baby in her arms said she thought Fredericks (Continued on Page 6)

14 Detroit Peace Crusaders Get 259 to Sign Petitions for a Big 5 Conference

DETROIT.—The Five Power Peace Pact petition campaign, renewed by the recent Michigan Peace Council Conference, picked up steam as peace workers took to the field.

Last Sunday morning 14 men and women, Negro and white, got together for breakfast and then went out canvassing. An hour and a half later they returned, bubbling with enthusiasm. The response had been almost 100 percent. Only two refusals to sign were reported—a wife who wanted to consult her husband and a

schoolteacher fearful that peace would be considered "subversive" by the city authorities.

The 14 brought in 259 signatures and several new recruits to the peace campaign. Mothers of teen age boys were especially eager to help. One woman offered to bring the campaign into the several organizations to which she belonged. Another said: "Come by my house first next time you go out, and I'll come with you."

A neighborhood minister and members of his congregation sign-

ed up for peace and promised to read the little pamphlets the campaigners were distributing: "I take My Stand for Peace," by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois; "What Price the Korean War?"; "Who Started the Korean War?" and "Germ Warfare."

A single representative of the Labor Peace Committee, who canvassed for Pact signatures for one hour in front of Ford Rouge, reported that he had secured 40 signatures and that the only question anyone asked was: "Will it do any good?"

35,000 Sign to Put PP On Massachusetts Ballot

BOSTON, June 19.—"The voters of Massachusetts will be able to vote for peace candidates in November if canvassers fulfill their quotas of nomination signatures," it was reported yesterday by Walter O'Brien, executive director of the Progressive

Push Drive for Peace on Ballot In Washington

SEATTLE, June 19.—Determined to "put peace on the ballot" Init. 183 circulators put new spark this week into their intensive campaign for 75,000 signers by July 1.

A total of 800 names gathered in a few hours in Seattle by a score of circulators indicated goals can be reached given the all-out contribution of every supporter of peace.

"We can do it if each of us will pledge to work as never before," Mrs. Margaret Donaldson, head of the Seattle 183 committee, declared.

The Seattle Committee's office at 507 People's Building, 2nd and Pike St., is being staffed all day and every day as a clearing house for downtown circulators.

In Tacoma, where a Committee of 21 religious leaders and laymen has taken hold of the job, an estimated 4,000 names have been gathered. About 20 teams of circulators have been organized.

ALP to Hold Hearing on Party Platform

The American Labor Party yesterday announced it would hold a public pre-convention hearing to receive suggestions of New Yorkers of all political parties concerning the national platform of the Progressive Party. The hearing will be held next Wednesday at the Teachers Union Center Auditorium, 206 W. 15 St. at 7 to 11 p.m.

An open invitation to the hearing, signed by Vito Marcantonio, ALP state chairman, was sent to representatives of Negro, Puerto Rican, trade union, youth, school, nationality group, parent-teacher, tenants, veterans and civic organizations.

The ALP pointed out that "the purpose and spirit of this pre-convention public hearing contrast sharply with the closed-door policy sessions of the Republican and Democratic bosses."

"We have piled up a total of 35,000 signatures as of June 15 and have quotas of 10,000 a week pledged for the remaining five weeks to July 22, the final date to turn in petitions to the local cities and towns for certification," O'Brien stated.

"Nearly all signatures to date have been carefully collected on a door-to-door basis, with the canvassers using official voting lists, which should guarantee a high percentage of valid signatures."

"The 350 canvassers involved throughout the state report a courteous reception generally and a warm response from many voters to the idea of a genuine peace ticket to oppose the bipartisan Democratic and Republican war parties."

"Thousands of the Massachusetts unemployed in Lawrence, New Bedford, Fall River, Holyoke, Peabody and other hard-hit industrial centers are signing our petitions. Many state that our program of an immediate peace in Korea, a big power settlement, trade with all nations, an end to oppression of the Negro people, lower taxes for working people, and a return to peaceful construction of needed schools, hospitals, roads, parks, is the program they have been waiting for."

"These last five weeks in the drive are the crucial ones. The local politicians and wisecrack political columnists predicted that we

would not be able to repeat the job we did in 1948 in getting on the ballot here. They did not take into consideration that the voters want a genuine peace and that the Progressive Party members are not daunted by a little hard work."

"What started out as a small group of courageous people in the state is now swelling day-by-day, as more people see that the job can be done, into a fighting, sizeable political organization which will be able to pile up a significant vote for Vincent Hallinan for president, Charlotte Bass for vice-president, and Florence Luscomb for governor."

Women Defendants to Be Honored Tonight

"Smith Act Trials and the Bill of Rights" will be the theme of the address by I. F. Stone, Compass columnist at the concert-rally to be held under auspices of the Bronx Citizens Defense Conference tonight (Friday) at the New Terrace Garden, Boston Road and 181 St.

Elizabeth Curley Flynn, Claudia Jones, Maron Bachrach and Betty Gannett, women co-defendants at the Smith Act trial at Foley Square, will be guests of honor.

Entertainment includes Leon Bibb, Negro singer, accompanied by Tanya Gould; Famous Mandolin Symphony Orchestra and Edith Segal's Dance Group.

THE '52 ELECTIONS:

Communists in the Elections

By PAUL MERCER

(Last of Four Articles)

Communist Party leaders have declared that their party will participate actively in the 1952 elections through the formulation and distribution of its own national platform as well as the candidacies of outstanding Communist leaders.

They assert that the Communist Party will not permit the war-inspired Smith Act trials and prosecutions to divert it from playing a major role in the electoral struggle.

On the contrary, the Communist leaders say, the election period will offer special opportunities to speak to the masses on the real character and program of the party. It will offer new opportunities of rallying additional sections of labor, Negro, farm, women, and youth voters against Wall Street's drive towards war and fascism and in defense of the rights of Communists to submit their proposals before the court of public opinion.

Only the Communist platform,

these leaders declare, will give a full picture of the struggle for peace, of the role of the Soviet Union as the leader of the peace camp, of the responsibility of American imperialism for a world situation which threatens humanity with a third World War. Here alone will the masses find full clarity on many aspects of the struggle for their economic needs, for Negro rights, for constitutional liberties. Here alone, will the masses find these struggles linked with the perspective of Socialism, as the only basic solution to their problems.

COMMUNIST candidates, according to the party leaders, will run in a number of states either by petition or as write-in candidates. These candidates and the national and local Communist election campaign committees will bring this platform to the people through the radio, meetings, literature and the like.

At the same time, Communist Party members will be active in all other phases of mass political struggle contributing to the expression of a progressive people's

HARRY BRIDGES URGES FULL EXCHANGE OF POWS

Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union, writes the following about the Korean war situation in his column, "On the Beam," in the May 23 issue of the union's organ, "The Dispatcher":

THE LAST remaining obstacle standing in the way of an armistice in Korea is the supposedly important issue of the right of war prisoners not to return to their own countries or their own armed services. The UN command is making a mighty big whoop-de about North Koreans and Chinese, who, the UN brass says, don't want to return to "Communist North Korea and China."

"We won't force them to go back," says the UN command, "that would betray their loyalty to us."

Anybody who wishes to do a little clear and reasonable thinking, plus a little research work as to the way nations at war are supposed to treat prisoners of war according to agreements reached between nations on such matters, should be plenty surprised at the horrible reality that thousands of men, women and children of the UN nations, North Korea and China are still being slaughtered and even buried alive over this supposedly sacred issue.

Apart from the fact that the whole hullabaloo reminds me of some of the times when, after a strike, the employers would hold up a strike settlement over the right of "loyal employees" who had refused to strike to stay on their jobs, there are a couple of other questions that should occur to the UN brass-hats that are so free with the lives of people they command, and yet so solicitous of the "rights" of prisoners of war captured from the other side.

WHO ARE these North Koreans and Chinese prisoners of war who we are told don't want to go home? At least in the eyes of their own people, they are probably regarded as renegades, traitors and deserters. What would our own army's attitude be towards American soldiers captured by the North Korean Army who don't want to return to their own armed services? Would the United States Army concede their individual rights not to do so? Not on your tin-type. Such people would be regarded as having de-

serted to the enemy and be right-ful material for a court martial.

And that's the third question—a pretty important one these days when we hear so much hollering from the brass hats and the diplomats about how Soviet Russia never lives up to an agreement.

In 1949 Great Britain, the United States and Soviet Russia signed a convention at Geneva, setting forth the rights of war prisoners and their treatment. A convention is an agreement made between nations. Amongst other things, the convention specifically forbade individual prisoners of war exercising an individual right not to return to his own country in the event of a truce or armistice, and specifically forbade the country of which he is a prisoner from putting such a question up to the individual prisoner of war. This was a signed pledge between nations that President Truman promised Great Britain, Canada, Soviet Russia and other countries that he, as President of the USA would see enforced.

Only last month, in April, the Government of Canada reminded the Government of the United States of the Geneva agreement regarding war prisoners; and although the news appeared publicly in all Canadian papers, it was suppressed in American papers.

ELSEWHERE in this issue of The Dispatcher appears a letter from some American and allied prisoners of war in Korea, also a story from a US press correspondent giving opinions of Korean GI's on the POW issue. Any fair-minded person reading both can have no doubts as to what the American prisoners of war and American troops now fighting who may wind up as POW's, think of continuing the war over whether 100,000 North Koreans and Chinese will be sent back to their own countries and armed services.

More recently, General Van Fleet, Commander of the United States Eighth Army in Korea, said:

"We are ready for anything. We can either outfight them," ("them" meaning the North Koreans and Chinese, Communists), "or," he added, "we can out-sit them."

It's a cinch bet that the UN prisoners of war, and the GI's fighting in Korea, as well as their families and friends at home, would go down the line for the last half of General Van Fleet's statement, to "out-sit" the other side, and thus cease having to risk the lives of American soldiers in Korea, while the diplomats and the big UN brass squabbled over this so-called important issue of the rights of prisoners of war.

If the Pentagon brass and the Washington politicians really wanted an armistice and an end to the slaughter and taking of more prisoners in Korea by both sides, they would settle this issue according to the Geneva agreement.

But no—as we go to press, President Truman speaking at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, threatens the stepping up of the Korean war to a full-scale offensive again, including a threat to use atomic shells and maybe bombs.

Some strong resolutions from our union and other unions, addressed to the politicians in this election year, reminding them of the 1949 Geneva convention on prisoners of war, and the tragedy of having more American lives lost over a few thousand North Koreans and Chinese not wanting to go home, would bring our union thanks and gratitude from thousands of American parents and families, and the GI's in Korea, too.



Drive for Negro Artists' Rights Mapped on Coast

LOS ANGELES.—An all-out campaign for equal rights for Negroes in the Arts, Sciences and Professions is now under way here. One phase is directed at Hollywood Bowl where no Negro artist has been included as a featured soloist in the 1952 program.

The drive for realization of the potential of the Negro people was set off at a Saturday conference for equal rights for Negroes in the Arts, Sciences and Professions sponsored by the A. S. P. Council of Southern California. The day-long conference was key-noted by the determination to "do more than pass resolutions" voiced by Dr. P. Price Cobbs, acting chairman of ASP and a Negro community leader.

Programs for immediate action, Dr. Cobbs said, were necessary if professionals were to adhere to the determination voiced by ASP nationally that "we are resolved that incendiaries shall not burn the Bill of Rights."

Joining Dr. Cobbs in emphasizing the need for a sharp battle to end discrimination in all phases of U. S. life, was radio writer Gene Stone, newly elected executive secretary of ASP.

"The problem," Stone said, "has been posed sharply for us. Either we struggle for a full and free Negro culture or we face the destruction of all U. S. culture."

Conferees divided into panels for the discussion of the effects of discrimination in the fields of mass communications, health, welfare and housing, music, the dance and science and education.

The demand for a campaign to end discrimination practices in Hollywood Bowl was drawn by the music division of ASP, which called for protests on the jimcrow practices at the bowl. These protests, the musicians said, should be directed not only to the hiring of artists, but the employment of Negro ushers, ticket takers and office workers.

More than 200 cultural workers present at the conference endorsed a plan of Earl B. Dickerson, president of the National Lawyers Guild. Dickerson proposed to a similar conference in New York that steps should be taken to:

"Embark upon a much broader conference of the same nature and invite the artists, scientists and professionals of Asia, Africa and South America as well as Europe here for an international conference against racial discrimination, to work out plans whereby mutual assistance may be given against this evil, once characterized by the late H. C. Wells as the most poisonous disease to afflict Americans."

Resolutions condemning the stereotyped portrayals of Negroes and other minorities in films, radio, television and other mediums were passed unanimously by the conference, and were supplemented by plans of action or an ending of jimcrow policies.

Summarizing results of the conference, Dr. Max H. Schoen characterized it as "but a moment in a continuing struggle."

"We must," he said, "be acutely aware that the practice of democracy in our country is seriously circumscribed and that all of us suffer from a lack of it as long as discrimination against the Negro continues. We must realize that a peaceful solution to the problems of the world today is inconceivable without an end to white supremacy."

LLOYD BROWN'S SPEECH AT 'BOOKS ON TRIAL' RALLY

Speech by Lloyd L. Brown, associate editor, Masses & Mainstream, at the "Books on Trial" rally June 12 at Hotel Capitol.

By LLOYD L. BROWN

Speaking of books on trial, I am reminded of the original culprits. There was a cartoon I once saw, showing a group of little stone-age men, clad in bearskins, solemnly assembled as one of them points proudly to a rock on which he has just chiselled the letter A. "Gentlemen," he announces, "we have just begun a great literary tradition."

No doubt if those little men should ever come back this way, pass by one of our drug-store newsstands and see what has happened to their invention, they would run like mad back to that stone and smash it to bits. Nor would the highest levels of commercial literary display reassure them that their brave beginning was not a terrible blunder.

Take last Sunday's book section of the New York Times:

The front-page article by Professor Irwin Edman of Columbia invites us to become literary ambassadors to Europe this summer. People over there, it seems, have got some wrong ideas about us. They've heard about "witchhunts" among us and the imposition of conformity through fear. Indeed, we do know that word has gone abroad about books on trial and the indictment of publishers like Alexander Trautenberg. But says the Professor, this is all a myth which many Europeans—"and not by any means those of the extreme Left only"—have come to believe.

The answer? "Arm yourself with the richness of our books, Mr. Edman advises the traveler." Tactfully, he doesn't suggest anything from the best-seller list on another page. But take along Emerson and Thoreau, whom he calls "heroes of corrective dissent."

Now here was an idea of some attractiveness—to be a literary ambassador (not all of us are qualified like O'Dwyer to get the official posts)—and so I was mentally packing my portfolio with the recommended "Essay on Civil Disobedience" when the crushing thought came: the Times writer plumb forgot to tell us how to get a passport!

What to do? Well, take a literary vacation here at home. Elsewhere in the book section co-editor Orville Prescott and his staff thoughtfully listed 125 recommended books to take with you.

The novels—well Mr. Prescott warns you in front that the pickings in this department are kind of slim: "it has been a mediocre year for fiction," nothing outstanding like last year's *From Here to Eternity*. But don't go away; it's a "better-than-usual one for biography and autobiography."

Sure. There's *Witness*, by Whitaker Chambers, "a psychologically fascinating document . . . and



LLOYD BROWN

I Led Three Lives, by stoolpigeon Philbrick . . . and *I Was Stalin's Prisoner* by another one . . . and *My Life in Crime: The Autobiography of a Professional Criminal* by John Bartlow Martin—"This last is the frank and fascinating story of a burglar and stickup man."

International Publishers is honored by exclusion. Not a single one of its books is recommended. Not James Allen's new book on the all-important topic Atomic Imperialism, not Finkelstein's latest, *How Music Expresses Ideas*, not the great Douglass biography and collection edited by Dr. Foner, not Foster's epic histories, not Marxism and Linguistics by that world-famed "corrective dissenter," Joseph Stalin—not one of these splendid works is deemed worthy of notice.

Books on trial? Yes, and the Times and the Tribune and the Saturday Review have long ago brought in their verdict—good books are sentenced to oblivion, even as the government tries to imprison the publishers. Foul, degraded, debased books—a must for all readers! Sex, sadism, racism, brutality—especially for the kiddies!

But listen to this: James Aldridge, the distinguished British author of *The Diplomat* and other works, recently visited a great metropolis where, he wrote:

"Stop any child in the street and he'll tell you in ringing terms that he loves all people and despises cruelty and admires culture. He means it too."

"I was especially interested in children's books, and looked through hundreds. Not one had a hint of violence in it; not one had any other emphasis but human dignity, patriotism, education, and kindness toward others. . . ."

That, my friends, is a report from the city of Moscow, in the land of socialism. Yes, we need publishers like International Publishers and Masses & Mainstream, and all the progressive press to bring us such truths about socialism and its fruits.

And let us remember that in all of these defense campaigns, for Trautenberg and his colleagues at Foley Square, amnesty for Dennis, Davis and the rest, we are not only defending what little freedom and culture we have left, but we are advancing toward the future when a visitor to New York—and to Birmingham, Alabama, too—will be able to say:

"Stop any child on the street and he'll tell you in ringing terms that he loves all people and despises cruelty and admires culture."

Lester Rodney is on vacation.

'COVER THE OLYMPICS' FUND

Enclosed find \$—— to help send the Daily Worker reporter to cover the 1952 Olympic Games at Helsinki.

Name _____

City _____

"LOVELY TO LOOK AT" FILM

The current reissue of the old musical hit "Roberta" at the Radio City Hall, now called "Lovely to Look At" might be more appropriately called "Lovely to Hear," for the charm of its well known melodies is all that the film can really boast of.

The story of the American lad (Red Skelton) whose Aunt dies in Paris leaving him part ownership of a super fashionable couturier is really and truly "old hat," besides being decidedly too pre-World War II in its conception of Parisian life to fit into the scheme of things today.

The face of France and the rest of Europe may change, French cabinets may fall daily, and the people may demonstrate in the streets against the substitution of

Jim Farley's Cokes for their national drink, but Hollywood's Paris is still one grand boulevard where American hoofers perform on top of street cafe tables to the delight of gay Parisians.

One wonders whether Hollywood is suffering from such poverty of ideas that it can't even dig up new ideas for fresh musicals, which used to be one of its ace film types.

Let it not be said, however, that the performers didn't try mightily to make this revival noteworthy. Kathryn Grayson sings her level best, as does Howard Keel.

Marge and Gower Champion put all their efforts into the gaudy dance routines with little thought as to how they fit into the story. —H.C.

'REPORT FROM FORMOSA' IS WAR BLURB FOR CHIANG

REPORT FROM FORMOSA. By H. Maclear Bates. Dutton. New York. 290 pp. \$3.50.

By ROBERT FRIEDMAN

H. Maclear Bates is a British Tory who vehemently opposes the British recognition of People's China and who believes that the present rightist government of Japan, allied with Chiang Kai-shek's forces on Taiwan (Formosa), can and should become the dominant group in Asia.

Given these views, it would be over-optimistic, indeed, to expect accurate reporting and sound analysis from the author's account of his recent visit to Taiwan, "Report From Formosa."

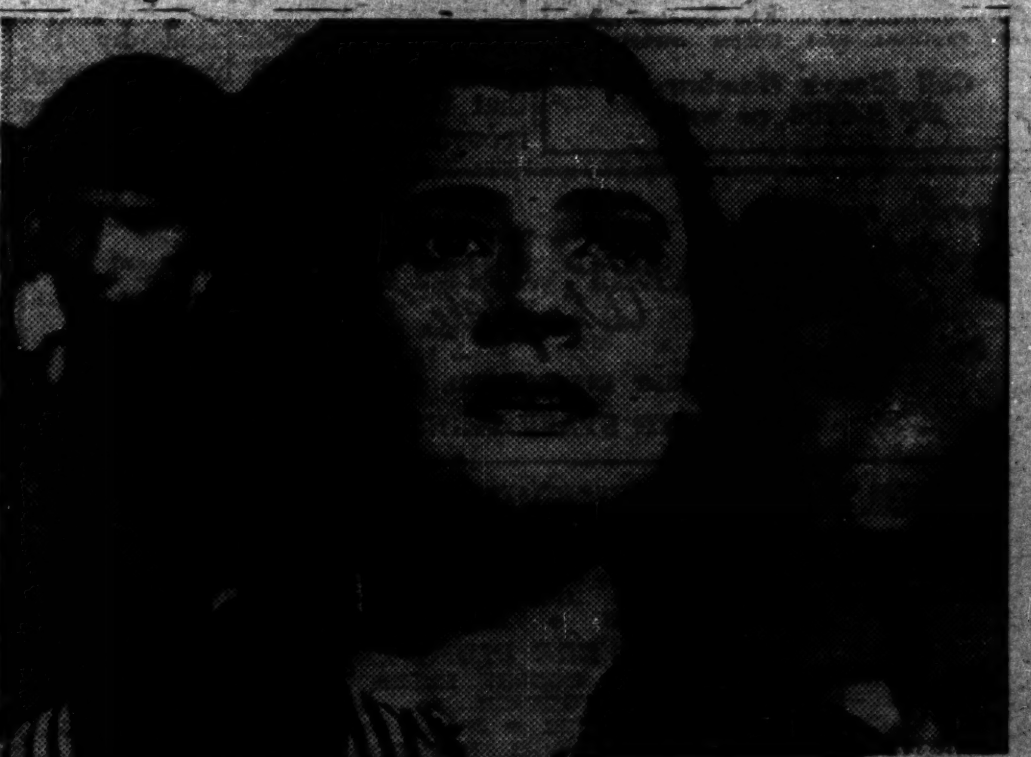
Chiang Kai-shek and his gang are so synonymous with graft, corruption and brutality throughout the world that the author has had to apply a curious method in writing this avowedly pro-Chiang book. He begins by acknowledging all and sundry charges against the Kuomintang clique, and then tries to dissipate their effect by claiming that (a) the charge is exaggerated or (b) that noble Chiang is the victim of naughty behaviour by his friend or (c) that the Kuomintang crime ought to be forgiven because the "Communists" would really be so much worse.

The third of these ingenious apologies is not only totally false, of course, but, in its shocking readiness to forgive any horror so long as it is "anti-Communist," it stands as a symbol of bourgeois morality.

The truth about Taiwan is that Chiang's army lives off the people of the island only because of the military and financial support given the dictator by Washington. The truth about China, as innumerable observers of that country testify, is that it has never been stronger or more united than



I. F. STONE, columnist for the Daily Worker, who will speak at the concert-rally tonight (Friday) at the New Terrace Garden, 2145 Boston Road, Cor. 181 St., Bronx to honor Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Claudia Jones, Marion Bachrach and Betty Cannett, four women defendants at the Smith Act trial here.



M. KOVALEVA as Natasha, the heroine of the new brilliant Soviet film "Fall of Berlin" which starts its third week at the Stanley

THE NEW FALL OF BERLIN
in MAGNIFICENT STANLEY

Negro Wins Place on Ballot in Calif. County

OAKLAND, Calif., June 19.—Dr. Boliver B. Moore, Negro physician, will fight it out with white incumbent Clifford Wixson for the fifth district seat on Alameda county's board of supervisors in the November final election.

In Tuesday's primary election, Dr. Moore polled 5,758 votes in 218 out of 233 precincts to top a field of four challengers. This put Dr. Moore in the run-off spot against Wixson. He was the first Negro ever to enter the finals against Wixson.

Wixson topped the field with a total of 12,773 votes. Third place went to Douglas C. Sweeney, white candidate who polled 4,896 votes. Mrs. Kate Hurl Duffy, also white, polled 3,253 on the basis of the incomplete returns.

Moore made the finals despite the presence in the race of a second Negro candidate, Booker T. Wallace. Wallace polled 2,222 votes in the unofficial 218 precinct report.

The fifth supervisorial district embraces a substantial segment of West Oakland, the state's second largest Negro community. As estimated 29 percent of the district's voters are Negroes.

The November election will mark the first time in 35 years that a Negro has participated in an Alameda county supervisorial run-off.

PP Asks Probe of Baltimore Cops in Frameup of Negro

BALTIMORE, July 18.—The Progressive Party of Maryland has called on Police Commissioner Beverly Ober to institute an immediate investigation into police conduct in the case of Raymond Gibson, freed recently by Judge Moser of a criminal attack charge.

In a letter to Ober, the Progressives declared that "Mr. Gibson, falsely accused . . . was made the victim not only of a lying accuser whose anti-Negro prejudice motivated her, but also of a brutal beating by members of your force which resulted in the extortion of a forced confession." The investigation, the letter said, "must bring to light the officers responsible and insure proper action taken against them" as well as guaranteeing "compensation to Mr. Gibson and his family for false arrest and the physical damage suffered by him."

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Man Sent to Mental Hospital Because He Wouldn't Be Stoolie

COLUMBUS, Ohio, June 19.—Recently in the Franklin County Courthouse a new low in attacks on civil rights took place when a judge, John R. King, sent Oscar Smilack to a mental hospital because Smilack refused to be a stool for the Ohio Un-American Committee and supported peace.

Smilack, prominent Columbus businessman, was shipped to the Lima State Hospital for the criminal insane for 30 days observation. He was finally released on a writ of habeas corpus.

Here is how the railroad was done: when Oscar Smilack appeared with three other Columbus people two of whom were Negro workers, for arraignment on charges of contempt of the Ohio Un-Americans, prosecutor Ralph Bartlett stated that there was a "question as to his sanity" and requested that Smilack be committed to the insane asylum.

Both Smilack and his attorney, Jack Dworkin, protested but Judge King cut them off quickly with, "I have ordered it."

When the attorney demanded a

writ of Habeas Corpus, he was told, "It's too late. He is on his way."

The American Civil Liberties Union came into the case as well as the Civil Rights Congress, and a writ was obtained. Smilack is free on the writ.

Parley Held to Defend Victims in Deportation Cases

A national conference of deportee defense committees was held in New York City recently. Thirty-five delegates representing groups defending the rights of foreign-born American throughout the nation participated in the conference, which was called by the American Committee for Protection of Foreign Born.

Major discussion and programming took place around the cases of Martin Young and Peter Harsiades, detained on Ellis Island and denied bail.

Special recommendations were made for extension of activity in defending the rights of Mexican-Americans. The case of Jose Estrada was cited. Estrada, father of 10 American-born children, in Dallas, Tex., two of whom are war veterans and one a disabled veteran, is married to a U. S. citizen. Ordered deported, he was kidnapped and thrown across the border into Mexico last month before all legal appeals had been exhausted.

The conference also called for defense of Mrs. Edunia Ramirez, mother of two children and married to a Puerto Rican. A resident of Puerto Rico, Mrs. Ramirez is the first Puerto Rican deportation victim.

Guest Column

(Continued from Page 5)
memory—collapsed completely. Confronted with obvious lies he had the Budenz answer: "I can't recollect." Questioned about the program of the Communist Party during the years while he was a member, he couldn't recall it. He didn't know under what conditions the coal miners lived during the depression. He was a Party functionary in Detroit, but he didn't know how the auto workers lived. He didn't know the struggles carried on against Negro discrimination, against lynching. He never heard of the fight carried on by our Party for social security, unemployment and health insurance.

His cross-examination is not yet concluded. We are confident that by the time the defense attorneys get through with Lautner, the smirk will be wiped off of his face. Then he will really stand stark naked—before the jury, before the Judge, and before the American people. He will stand convicted as a cheap stoolpigeon, labor spy and provocateur; a Judas Iscariot. He will stand as a reminder to all of the labor movement including Communists to watch out for enemy agents in their ranks.

He will not alter the forward march for peace and democracy.

DIXIECRAT KEEPS JIMCROW IN WASHINGTON FIRE DEPT.

WASHINGTON, June 19 (EP).—President Truman on June 13 called for fair employment legislation "with the full force of the Federal Government behind it," but on June 15 a first feeble move toward racial equality in the Washington fire department was quashed because of opposition by a southern Congressman and some others.

Truman's demand was made in a commencement address at Howard University, a government-supported college for Negroes.

The first halfway step toward integration of Negroes in the Washington Fire Department was made by fire chief Millard H. Sutton when he ordered that one Negro fireman be sent to temporary duty in each of six fire stations now manned by white firemen.

Sutton said the move was made necessary because there is a shortage of white firemen and the Negroes would have to fill in for vacation periods.

But Rep. James C. Davis (D-Ga.) objected, and the order was canceled before it was put into effect.

The President is head of the district government and appoints the board of commissioners which conducts local affairs. Ever since Truman took office, a fight has been going on to open restaurants and hotels to Negroes, but has only been partly successful in about two dozen eating places. Washington schools are segregated.

A move for integration of Negro firemen was started last October but was called off after southern congressmen objected at that time.

Justice Dept. 'May' Study LaBenskey Case, Delegates Told

Justice Department officials "may investigate" the acquittal of Stanley LaBenskey, Westchester County retired policeman who killed two Negroes last March, if NAACP attorneys who observed the recent trial forward their report on the case, it was reported by delegates who visited the Department of Justice Civil Rights Section last Monday.

LaBenskey was acquitted by an all-white jury last week in what the NAACP called a "gross miscarriage of justice."

The delegates to Washington reported acknowledgment by the Justice Department of "a large number of telegraphed demands for federal investigation of the acquittal and other police killings in Westchester County."

During the delegation's interview with A. A. Cauldwell, head of the Civil Rights Section, Jean Taylor, Negro woman leaders and co-chairman of the Committee for Justice in the Blacknall case, declared that every responsible authority in New York State, including Gov. Dewey, had been petitioned to take action against 36 unpunished incidents of police killings and brutality against Negro citizens in the past three years.

"Yet the last time we saw Kent Brown, Dewey's assistant," she said, the only action he could take was to insult us with an anti-Negro epithet—"a n—r in every woodpile."

Miss Taylor asked Maceo Hubbard, former Negro attorney of Philadelphia and now an assistant to Cauldwell, "What do you think should be done with such an official?"

"I think the Governor should have him impeached or removed,"

Hubbard answered.

Despite delegates' insistence that the Justice Department could move under the Federal Civil Rights Statutes, Cauldwell replied that "there is no federal law against murder."

Mrs. Agnes Doe, Harlem parents' leader, asked, "What shall I tell the people of Harlem happened here today?"

Cauldwell, with a smirk on his face, replied, "You can say Jean Taylor gave me hell."

Miss Taylor shot back, "No, I didn't give you hell this time. . . . But if we have to come back here on another genocidal murder of Negro citizens, the people will do more than just give you hell."

Other delegates included Abe Weisburd, treasurer of the Committee to Secure Justice in the Blacknall Case; James Carry of United Electrical Workers Union, Local 1227; Arnie Botts and Mary Williams of Queens CRC, Gertrude Seldes of the Emma Lazarus Federation, Peter Myrill of the American Communication Association, Terrence Hollingsworth of the Furriers Joint Board, and Marilyn Lion of the Student Division of the Labor Youth League.

What's On?

Tonight
CLUB CINEMA presents "Great Expectations" with John Mills, powerful Academy Award winner from G. Dickens novel. Two showings from 8:30 p.m. Social from 10 p.m. 420 Sixth Ave. (nr. 9th St.) \$1 for members, \$1.25 for non-members. Air cooled.

A MESSAGE TO ALL NEW YORKERS!
Will you be in town on Sunday, June 22nd?
If so, you can have the time of your life by attending the colorful
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DIRECTIONS: To Castle Hill Ave., Bronx — Take IRT Pelham Bay Line to Castle Hill Ave. There transfer to bus to the end of the line EAST on the SOUND. (It is only a five minute bus ride.)

Truman Weighs T-H Against Steel Strike; President Wants Taxes Increased Again

WASHINGTON, June 19.—President Truman disclosed today that he is considering use of the Taft-Hartley law to break the nationwide steel strike. Truman told his weekly news conference he has been considering use of the Taft-Hartley law to break the machinery for some time. The President said he doubted that the steel workers would abide by an injunction. At least he thought they would not go back to work as promptly under Taft-Hartley as they did when he took over the plants on April 8 to prevent a strike.

The strike began on June 2, minutes after the Supreme Court overturned the seizure as unconstitutional.

The Senate tacked a rider to its controls bill "requesting" Truman to get a Taft-Hartley court order against the 650,000 CIO United Steelworkers. The House, which started voting on its controls bill today, is expected to follow suit.

Truman said the steel strike is becoming very serious and will affect every industry in the country if it continues.

Acting arms mobilizer John R. Steelman and other government officials were putting the finishing touches on a bill to prevent a strike.

(Continued on Page 6)

WASHINGTON, June 19.—President Truman said today that taxes should be increased to meet the federal deficit and took a cynical dig at Gen. Dwight D. Eisenhower and Sen. Robert A. Taft for promising tax reductions if elected President.

Taft has pledged to cut taxes 15 percent in two years if he wins the Republican Presidential nomination and if elected President in November. Eisenhower has called for a \$40,000,000 cut in federal spending with corresponding tax slashes.

Truman told his news conference that no Republican or Democratic President could cut taxes 15 percent because it would put the country in more of a hole than it is now. He said jokingly that he could not make such a statement because he is not running for public office.

In fact, the President said, taxes should be raised to meet the deficit. Latest Treasury figures show a fiscal 1952 deficit of \$7,472,688,183. In his January budget message, Truman forecast a deficit of \$8,201,000,000 for this fiscal year.

Congress has voted three tax increases totalling about \$14,000,000,000 since the start of the Korean war.

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City Officials Spurned Warning Month Ago On B'klyn Firetrap

By MICHAEL SINGER

The Board of Estimate and the City Council spurned warnings by Mrs. Bernice Libuser, chairman of the Brooklyn Tenants Council, last month that failure to restore budget cuts in the Housing and Building Department appropriations would "result in death and tragedy to families now living in fire-trap tenements."

MURDER IN BROOKLYN

An Editorial

IT WAS MURDER. Murder in a blazing inferno from which the screams of three Puerto Rican mothers and four children could be heard as the flames consumed them. Afterwards only charred remains were found.

More children, more families would have perished had it not been for the courage of another tenant at 1101 Bedford Ave., Leroy Fredericks, a Negro veteran, who risked his life to bring out the other families.

The responsibility for these horrible deaths lies at the door of the City Administration and of the landlord. They knew 1101 Bedford Ave. in the heart of jimmied Bedford-Stuyvesant, was a firetrap.

The City Department of Housings and Buildings knew it for four years. They knew that building could go up in flames at any time. And finally it happened.

A complaint had been entered with the Department of Housings and Buildings four years ago after a small fire broke out in which, fortunately, nobody was injured. The ramshackle tenement lacked fire-retarding stairwells and walls and a fire escape. But nothing was done to correct it.

The department admits that it had sent out a number of routine admonitions to install fire safeguards since then. But still the violations were permitted to continue. Only one month ago petitions had been circulated and sent to the department complaining about the landlord's gouging practices.

Why was nothing done? How many more children, (Continued on Page 5)

This warning was recalled yesterday by Mrs. Libuser and enraged working-class families as they mobilized against more halocausts like that which killed seven Puerto Rican mothers and their children in the tinder-box murder at 1101 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, early Wednesday morning.

Mrs. Bessie Honig, owner of the gutted firetrap, was arrested last night and charged with second degree manslaughter. Edward Silver, assistant District Attorney, said she would be held in high bail.

Mayor Impellitteri, following a City Hall conference with top city commissioners, sought to brush aside the city's responsibility. He told a press conference that the Housing and Building Department was pressing the case and cited the city's so-called slum clearance program to dodge the charge of official negligence in failing to prosecute the violations in the firetrap for four years.

The Mayor went into a complicated story of Mrs. Honig, involving several aliases he said she used, her different addresses and an alleged indebtedness to the Welfare Department.

While Housing and Building Commissioner Bernard J. Gilroy and his Brooklyn superintendent (Continued on Page 6)

UNION SQ. RALLY OPENS LABOR SOLIDARITY DRIVE

An after-work mass meeting in Union Square last night called by the United Labor Action Committee launched a movement for solidarity for steel and all other workers facing the attacks of big business.

A seven-point resolution at the rally called upon those present and all other trade union forces in the city to begin a campaign in the unions and shops for:

- Support of the steel strikers.
- Full backing to striking American Safety Razor, General Cable, Thomasville Chair and the 5,000 Southern fishermen.
- Repeal of the Taft-Hartley Law.
- Pressure Mayor Impellitteri and all candidates to declare themselves in support of the steel strikers.
- Appeals to AFL, CIO and other sections of the labor movement to join in a movement for defense of labor's rights.

The meeting also appealed to all other United Labor Action bodies in the country to launch a movement together with the New York group for the tasks outlined and for collection of food for strikers.

Speakers, representing a number of ULAC unions, stressed that the meeting in Union Square, called on several days notice, was just a beginning.

John Ball, of Reedville, Va., a (Continued on Page 6)

Acheson Opens U.S. to Daughter Of Nazi Criminal

WASHINGTON, June 18.—Secretary of State Dean Acheson personally has reversed a decision that would have prevented Hilde Speer, daughter of a Nazi war criminal, from coming to the U. S., it was disclosed today.

BIG PACKINGHOUSE RALLY PLEDGES STEEL STRIKE AID

By CARL HIRSCH

CHICAGO, June 19.—Packinghouse workers here enlisted themselves in the steel workers' struggle to win their strike, at a huge rally in the stockyards here today.

"The steelworkers' fight is our fight," declared CIO United Packinghouse Workers district director Harold Nielsen, at the noon-time rally in the center of the yards.

Grover R. Hathaway, secretary-treasurer of the UPWA, declared that the entire international union is backing the steel strike.

The rally vowed to take a collection at each plant gate to aid the steelworkers.

Armour Local president Leon Beverly, pointing out that the Packinghouse Workers are also entering a major fight to improve their contract, declared:

"All of labor is facing a line-up of employers who are on the war path throughout the world and here at home. They are united—and it's time that labor learned the same lesson."

Thousands of workers from all unions in this area are planning to attend a rally in support of the steelworkers this Sunday 2 p.m. in the Gary Municipal Auditorium. Philip Murray will be the main speaker.

Wisconsin U. Students Bring Peace Petition to White House

WASHINGTON, June 19.—Three University of Wisconsin students stopped off at the White House yesterday to leave a petition calling for immediate big power meetings on world peace. The students, Arnold Libber, Henry Worts and Helene Munchick, were members of a delegation appointed to present the bound petition to President Truman.

The campus group, called the Committee for Big Power Negotiations, had 2,130 students signed the petition.

A Block of Death-Traps Where Fire Killed Seven

By JOHN HUDSON JONES

People were staring at the gutted tenement at 1101 Bedford Ave., Brooklyn, yesterday afternoon. Passersby, bus and taxi passengers and people from slow-moving automobiles shook their heads in sympathetic horror at the scene of the fire tragedy that claimed seven lives early Wednesday morning.

But more horrible are the next-door firetraps, where Negro tenants are still living in dangerous conditions. For the ugly two-story buildings in that block are identical to 1101.

Wooden police barriers surrounded 1101 and 1105. I was looking for Leroy Fredericks, Negro hero of the fire, to interview him. He had lived at 1105. But the top floor was gutted, and the doorway to the first floor apartment was blocked by a mountain of debris as I walked gingerly over the water-soaked and sagging wooden stairs and hallway.

A fierce rainstorm blew up suddenly, and I fled to the candy store at 1095. The Negro woman proprietor heard me telephoning the city clerk I couldn't find Fredericks.

"He's living in one of those buildings along there," she volunteered.

While the rain came down, she talked with another customer who said, "I hope they catch that landlord and give her the works. I hope they put all landlords in jail that do what she did."

"It's a wonder the wind doesn't blow all these old crackshouses over," the candy store lady said.

I tried 1099 first. The stairs are creaking and the hall littered.

A Negro woman with a baby in her arms said she thought Fredericks (Continued on Page 6)

14 Detroit Peace Crusaders Get 259 to Sign Petitions for a Big 5 Conference

DETROIT.—The Five Power Peace Pact petition campaign, renewed by the recent Michigan Peace Council Conference, picked up steam as peace workers took to the field.

Last Sunday morning 14 men and women, Negro and white, got together for breakfast and then went out canvassing. An hour and a half later they returned, bubbling with enthusiasm. The response had been almost 100 percent. Only two refusals to sign were reported — a wife who wanted to consult her husband and a

schoolteacher, fearful that peace would be considered "subversive" by the city authorities.

The 14 brought in 259 signatures and several new recruits to the peace campaign. Mothers of teen age boys were especially eager to help. One woman offered to bring the campaign into the several organizations to which she belonged. Another said: "Come by my house first next time you go out, and I'll come with you."

A neighborhood minister and members of his congregation sign-

ed up for peace and promised to read the little pamphlets the campaigners were distributing: "I Take My Stand for Peace," by Dr. W. E. B. DuBois; "What Price the Korean War?"; "Who Started the Korean War?" and "Germ Warfare."

A single representative of the Labor Peace Committee, who canvassed for Pact signatures for one hour in front of Ford Rouge, reported that he had secured 46 signatures and that the only question anyone asked was: "Will it do any good?"

35,000 Sign to Put PP On Massachusetts Ballot

BOSTON, June 19.—"The voters of Massachusetts will be able to vote for peace candidates in November of canvassers fulfill their quotas of nomination signatures," it was reported yesterday by Walter O'Brien, executive director of the Progressive Party of Massachusetts.

Push Drive for Peace on Ballot In Washington

SEATTLE, June 19.—Determined to "put peace on the ballot" Init. 183 circulators put new spark this week into their intensive campaign for 75,000 signers by July 1.

A total of 800 names gathered in a few hours in Seattle by a score of circulators indicated goals can be reached given the all-out contribution of every supporter of peace.

"We can do it if each of us will pledge to work as never before," Mrs. Margaret Donaldson, head of the Seattle 183 committee, declared.

The Seattle Committee's office at 507 People's Building, 2nd and Pike St., is being staffed all day and every day as a clearing house for downtown circulators.

In Tacoma, where a Committee of 21 religious leaders and laymen has taken hold of the job, an estimated 4,000 names have been gathered. About 20 teams of circulators have been organized.

ALP to Hold Hearing on Party Platform

The American Labor Party yesterday announced it would hold a public pre-convention hearing to receive suggestions of New Yorkers of all political parties concerning the national platform of the Progressive Party. The hearing will be held next Wednesday at the Teachers Union Center Auditorium, 206 W. 15 St., at 7 to 11 p.m.

An open invitation to the hearing, signed by Vito Marcantonio, ALP state chairman, was sent to representatives of Negro, Puerto Rican, trade union, youth, school, nationality group, parent-teacher, tenants, veterans and civic organizations.

The ALP pointed out that "the purpose and spirit of this pre-convention public hearing contrast sharply with the closed-door policy sessions of the Republican and Democratic bosses."



"We have piled up a total of 35,000 signatures as of June 15 and have quotas of 10,000 a week pledged for the remaining five weeks to July 22, the final date to turn in petitions to the local cities and towns for certification," O'Brien stated.

"Nearly all signatures to date have been carefully collected on a door-to-door basis, with the canvassers using official voting lists, which should guarantee a high percentage of valid signatures."

"The 350 canvassers involved throughout the state report a courteous reception generally and a warm response from many voters to the idea of a genuine peace ticket to oppose the bipartisan Democratic and Republican war parties."

"Thousands of the Massachusetts unemployed in Lawrence, New Bedford, Fall River, Holyoke, Peabody and other hard-hit industrial centers are signing our petitions. Many state that our program of an immediate peace in Korea, a big power settlement, trade with all nations, an end to oppression of the Negro people, lower taxes for working people, and a return to peaceful construction of needed schools, hospitals, roads, parks, is the program they have been waiting for."

"These last five weeks in the drive are the crucial ones. The local politicians and wisecracking political columnists predicted that we

would not be able to repeat the job we did in 1948 in getting on the ballot here. They did not take into consideration that the voters want a genuine peace and that the Progressive Party members are not daunted by a little hard work."

"What started out as a small group of courageous people in the state is now swelling day-by-day, as more people see that the job can be done, into a fighting, sizeable political organization which will be able to pile up a significant vote for Vincent Hallinan for president, Charlotte Bass for vice-president, and Florence Luscomb for governor."

Women Defendants to Be Honored Tonight

"Smith Act Trials and the Bill of Rights" will be the theme of the address by I. F. Stone, Compass columnist at the concert-rally to be held under auspices of the Bronx Citizens Defense Conference tonight (Friday) at the New Terrace Garden, Boston Road and 181 St.

Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Claudia Jones, Maron Bachrach and Betty Cannett, women co-defendants at the Smith Act trial at Foley Square, will be guests of honor.

Entertainment includes Leon Bibb, Negro singer, accompanied by Tanya Gould; Famous Mandolin Symphony Orchestra and Edith Segal's Dance Group.

HARRY BRIDGES URGES FULL EXCHANGE OF POWS

Harry Bridges, president of the International Longshore and Warehousemen's Union, writes the following about the Korean war situation in his column, "On the Beam," in the May 23 issue of the union's organ, "The Dispatcher":

THE LAST remaining obstacle standing in the way of an armistice in Korea is the supposedly important issue of the right of war prisoners not to return to their own countries or their own armed services. The UN command is making a mighty big whoopy-do about North Koreans and Chinese, who, the UN brass says, don't want to return to "Communist North Korea and China."

"We won't force them to go back," says the UN command, "that would betray their loyalty to us."

Anybody who wishes to do a little clear and reasonable thinking, plus a little research work as to the way nations at war are supposed to treat prisoners of war according to agreements reached between nations on such matters, should be plenty surprised at the horrible reality that thousands of men, women and children of the UN nations, North Korea and China are still being slaughtered and even buried alive over this supposedly sacred issue.

Apart from the fact that the whole hullabaloo reminds me of some of the times when, after a strike, the employers would hold up a strike settlement over the right of "loyal employees" who had refused to strike to stay on their jobs, there are a couple of other questions that should occur to the UN brass-hats that are so free with the lives of people they command, and yet so solicitous of the "rights" of prisoners of war captured from the other side.

WHO ARE these North Koreans and Chinese prisoners of war who we are told don't want to go home? At least in the eyes of their own people, they are probably regarded as renegades, traitors and deserters. What would our own army's attitude be towards American soldiers captured by the North Korean Army who don't want to return to their own armed services? Would the United States Army concede their individual rights not to do so? Not on your tin-type. Such people would be regarded as having de-

serted to the enemy and be right-ful material for a court martial.

And that's the third question—a pretty important one these days when we hear so much hollering from the brass hats and the diplomats about how Soviet Russia never lives up to an agreement.

In 1949 Great Britain, the United States and Soviet Russia signed a convention at Geneva, setting forth the rights of war prisoners and their treatment. A convention is an agreement made between nations. Amongst other things, the convention specifically forbade individual prisoners of war exercising an individual right not to return to his own country in the event of a truce or armistice, and specifically forbade the country of which he is a prisoner from putting such a question up to the individual prisoner of war. This was a signed pledge between nations that President Truman promised Great Britain, Canada, Soviet Russia and other countries that he, as President of the USA would see enforced.

Only last month, in April, the Government of Canada reminded the Government of the United States of the Geneva agreement regarding war prisoners, and although the news appeared publicly in all Canadian papers, it was suppressed in American papers.

ELSEWHERE in this issue of The Dispatcher appears a letter from some American and allied prisoners of war in Korea, also a story from a US press correspondent giving opinions of Korean GIs on the POW issue. Any fair-minded person reading both can have no doubts as to what the American prisoners of war and American troops now fighting who may wind up as POWs, think of continuing the war over whether 100,000 North Koreans and Chinese will be sent back to their own countries and armed services.

More recently, General Van Fleet, Commander of the United States Eighth Army in Korea, said:

"We are ready for anything. We can either outfight them," ("them" meaning the North Koreans and Chinese Communists), "or," he added, "we can out-sit them."

It's a cinch bet that the UN prisoners of war, and the GI's fighting in Korea, as well as their families and friends at home, would go down the line for the last half of General Van Fleet's statement, to "out-sit" the other side, and thus cease having to risk the lives of American soldiers in Korea, while the diplomats and the big UN brass squabbled over this so-called important issue of the rights of prisoners of war.

If the Pentagon brass and the Washington politicians really wanted an armistice and an end to the slaughter and taking of more prisoners in Korea by both sides, they would settle this issue according to the Geneva agreement.

But no—as we go to press, President Truman speaking at the U. S. Military Academy at West Point, threatens the stepping up of the Korean war to a full-scale offensive again, including a threat to use atomic shells and maybe bombs.

Some strong resolutions from our union and other unions, addressed to the politicians in this election year, reminding them of the 1949 Geneva convention on prisoners of war, and the tragedy of having more American lives lost over a few thousand North Koreans and Chinese not wanting to go home, would bring our union thanks and gratitude from thousands of American parents and families, and the GI's in Korea, too.

THE '52 ELECTIONS:

Communists in the Elections

By PAUL MERCER

(Last of Four Articles)

Communist Party leaders have declared that their party will participate actively in the 1952 elections through the formulation and distribution of its own national platform as well as the candidacies of outstanding Communist leaders.

They assert that the Communist Party will not permit the war-inspired Smith Act trials and prosecutions to divert it from playing a major role in the electoral struggle.

On the contrary, the Communist leaders say, the election period will offer special opportunities to speak to the masses on the real character and program of the party. It will offer new opportunities of rallying additional sections of labor, Negro, farm, women, and youth voters against Wall Street's drive towards war and fascism and in defense of the rights of Communists to submit their proposals before the court of public opinion.

Only the Communist platform,

these leaders declare, will give a full picture of the struggle for peace, of the role of the Soviet Union as the leader of the peace camp, of the responsibility of American imperialism for a world situation which threatens humanity with a third World War. Here alone will the masses find full clarity on many aspects of the struggle for their economic needs, for Negro rights, for constitutional liberties. Here alone, will the masses find these struggles linked with the perspective of Socialism, as the only basic solution to their problems.

COMMUNIST candidates, according to the party leaders, will run in a number of states either by petition or as write-in candidates. These candidates and the national and local Communist election campaign committees will bring this platform to the people through the radio, meetings, literature and the like.

At the same time, Communist Party members will be active in all other phases of mass political struggle contributing to the expression of a progressive people's

mandate in the '52 elections. In their electoral work among the masses the Communists will focus attention upon the overriding issue of peace and the struggle against the economic and other consequences of the war drive of American imperialism.

The Communists will join actively in every step that furthers labor's independent political action, the party leaders point out. They will participate energetically in struggles for Negro representation. They will strengthen their ties with the masses of labor and Negro voters who still support the old parties but at the same time give full backing, in accordance with their situation and mass responsibilities, to the vital campaign for the Hallinan-Bass Peace Ticket. As the pivotal center of political action they will see the need for helping to free the decisive sections of labor and Negro voters from the pro-war reactionary, Social Democratic and reformist influences that chain them to the two-party system.

UNIONS, COMMUNITY HELP GENERAL CABLE STRIKERS

ROME, N. Y., June 19.—Labor unity and community support marks the strike of 1,300 General Cable workers now in its third week.

The strike, called by local 331, United Electrical Radio and Machine workers (UE), remains solid in face of injunction threats and other moves against the union that has represented the workers for six years. This is the first strike of the company's workers.

The walkout was forced by the company June 2 when it refused to renew the contract and demanded 65 changes designed to pull down working and living standards, eliminate plant-wide seniority, and deny a vacation to any worker who has not put in 2,000 hours of work in a year.

The company turned down the union's demand for a clause barring discrimination in hiring on the ground that such a clause wasn't necessary. Dwight Palmer, president of General Cable, is chairman of the President Truman's Committee on Discrimination.

Also on strike are 350 workers of the company's Los Angeles plant and 85 workers of the Emeryville, Cal., plant.

The union has demanded a raise of 15 cents an hour and other improvements in the past.

SOLIDARITY ACTION
Two weeks before the General Cable workers themselves went on strike they raised \$600 to help the 350 striking workers of the International Association of Machinists at the Rome-Graden plant who had been on strike for five weeks. When the General Cable workers held their first strike mass meeting, a representative of the IAM spoke and received the UE check.

The 100 office workers of General Cable, who happen to be members of another independent union, MESA, recognized the UE picket line and refused to cross it.

The union took its case to the community in a big way and it getting a sympathetic response. It placed ads in the local papers and took to the radio.

Leaders of Local 331 offered to negotiate with the company before the general public in a Rome theatre or over the radio. The company turned down both offers.

Mike Jimenez, the UE's interna-

tional representative, appeared earlier this week on a Meet-the-Press program on WKAL to explain the union's stand.

MERCHANTS HELP

A full-page ad, placed in the local papers in support of the union's position, was signed by more than 100 merchants. Many of the merchants have supplied the union's "soup kitchen" with groceries without being solicited.

The unions here are also backing the strikers, fully aware that the General Cable workers set the pattern for wages in the copper industry here.

Almost every striker has signed up for picket duty, which goes on seven days a week, with a mass picket line every morning from seven to eight. From 150 to 400 come to mass picketing and stay for a daily open-air rally. The strike machinery is under direction of Jimenez.

A former leader of the pro-IUE-CIO group in the plant, which last year raided the UE but lost 860 to 366, declared concerning the present strike, "We are all in this together."

There is also a developing Negro-white unity. The General Cable workers, elected a Negro vice-president two weeks before the strike, and placed two Negroes on the negotiating committee.

Rep. Celler Pledges To Work for Repeal Of the Smith Act

Rep. Emanuel Celler (Dem-Lib, NY) chairman of the House Judiciary Committee to which the new Smith anti-strike bill has been committed, sharply announced his determined opposition to the Smith thought-control act of 1940 and the new Smith bill in a telegram received by John D. Masso, secretary of the Trade Union Committee To Repeal The Smith Act.

BEGINNING MONDAY

UPSURGE IN THE SOUTH

An eyewitness report by Abner W. Berry, Negro Affairs editor of the Daily Worker, who is making a trip through the Southern states. Don't miss this exclusive series.

MONDAY: Report From Mississippi

"I am unalterably opposed to the Smith Act and will work and vote for its repeal," Rep. Celler declared in his message to the delegates of the Eastern Seaboard Conference To Repeal the Smith Act, which is being held tomorrow (Sat. June 21) starting at 1 p. m. at the Hotel Capitol, 51 St. and 8th Ave. under sponsorship of the Committee.

"I am also opposed to the new Smith proposal which provides for compulsory arbitration and seizure of striking unions," wired Congressman Celler, concluding, "I will do all in my power to prevent passage of this bill."

Delegates to the conference will assemble from the Midwest, South and New England to organize a wide trade union campaign for re-

peal of the Smith Act; and defeat of the new Smith union-seizure bill and other current anti-labor legislation.

Robert Schrank, International Representative of the Mine, Mill & Smelter Workers Union, will chair the conference.

Rev. Talmadge E. McElroy will offer the invocation. Rev. McElroy, a prominent Negro leader and staunch defender of civil liberties will head a trade union delegation from Louisiana and Texas.

John D. Masso, Business Agent of AFL Class Bevelers Local 528, will deliver the secretary's report.

William Glazier, national legislative representative of the International Longshoremen's and Warehousemen's Union, will present the report on legislation. Leon Beverly, president of Armour Local No. 347, CIO United Packinghouse Workers of America, CIO, will report for the committee on Program of action. Richard Bishop, business agent of Marine, Cooks and Stewards Union in New York, will report for the Resolutions Committee.

MEN OF 1776 WERE ALSO CHARGED WITH 'AESOP' LANGUAGE, APTHEKER POINTS OUT

By ROB. F. HALL

WASHINGTON, Jan. 19.—The framers of the Declaration of Independence wrote this historic document in "Aesopian language" if the stoop-pigeons of that revolutionary time are to be believed.

This bit of knowledge, contributed to the McCarran Board hearings today by Dr. Herbert Aptheker, Marxist scholar and historian, shed light on the murky testimony given previously by Louis Budenz and other informers.

Actually, Aptheker pointed out, the authors of that immortal document said exactly what they meant. But "British scribbles" immediately denouced them as meaning something different. They were described as a bunch of Communists and Socialists cloaking their nefarious objectives in words about popular rights.

ETERNAL SLANDERS
From time immemorial, Aptheker said, movements for human progress have had to contend with the two slanders most frequently heard against the Communists—that they are "foreign agents" and that they indulge in "Aesopian language."

The charge of Aesopianism, he said, reminded him of what might have taken place if Socrates, Aristotle and an idiot engaged in a conversation. What the idiot heard and what he disliked he would describe as not what Socrates really meant. "You mean the opposite," the idiot would say.

The Abolitionists were also accused of not frankly stating their program, Aptheker pointed out. They, too, were described by their prosecutors as advocating socialism under the guise of urging the abolition of slavery.

The witness declared, in reply to questions by Vito Marcantonio, attorney for the Communist Party, that the party attaches profound importance to the imperialist character of the American ruling class as the fundamental source of its aggressiveness and expansionism.

"The Communist Party," he added, "asserts that at the base of the hostilities in Korea is imperialism—that its source is that the U.S. ruling class seeks to protect and

expand its interests and investments in Asia. We therefore assert that the war in Korea is an unjust war, a war for profit, power and greed."

Aptheker said that the Party believes the war should be ended immediately and the issues resolved by negotiation, and that the Party calls on the people to use all political pressure at their command to bring this about.

Aptheker then turned to the stoop-pigeon testimony that the party uses the Negro people as a catspaw.

"The Communist Party does not speak falsely or demagogically," he said. "It is a party of Negro and white, a party in which Negroes are full and equal members. Outstanding Negroes are a component part of the leadership of the Party. The Negro members have in fact been the most active in hammering out the Communist Party's position on the Negro question."

Furthermore that charge is a chauvinist insult to the Negro people in that it implies they are children, that they are clowns, that they can be led around by the nose. Nobody can lead Claudia Jones around by the nose; just as nobody could have led Frederick Douglass around."

Claudia Jones Still Ill; Trial Off to Monday

Continued illness of Claudia Jones, defendant in the Smith Act trial of the 16 New York Communists, caused Judge Edward J. Dimock to recess the trial yesterday until Monday, 10:30 a.m.

The trial had been in recess for three days because of Miss Jones' illness. And when court convened yesterday, John T. McTernan, her attorney, presented a certificate from Dr. Louis Miller, her physician, stating she should not leave home and attend court for the rest of the week.

Miss Jones, who is secretary of the national women's commission of the Communist Party, is suffering from a bronchial infection.

Dr. Kermit L. Pines, physician appointed by the court to examine Miss Jones, repeated the advice of Dr. Miller that she should remain home until Monday.

Defense attorneys are scheduled to continue cross-examination of government witness John Lautner when the court reconvenes.

West 'Educates' African People For Slavery

SPRINGFIELD, O., June 19.—Western-sponsored education programs for the peoples of Africa serve only to perpetuate their slavery for the "profit" of white masters," a report to the North American Assembly on African Affairs acknowledged here yesterday. The 10-day Assembly is at Wittenberg College sponsored by the Africa Committee of the National Council of Churches of Christ in America.

Present in the audience which heard the criticisms of white supremacist ideology were representatives of the State Department, the United Nations, over 300 representatives of five African governments and spokesmen for 30 Protestant churches in the U. S. The report, based on surveys and questionnaires sent to 150 American missionaries and African nationals, declared that the education programs sponsored both by African colonial regimes and foreign church missions do "little more than prepare Africans for clerks-for the profit of their white masters." It said the education "is fit only for the mentality of slaves. It does not equip us (the peoples of Africa) to compete economically with other races."

Reuther Man Loses Election to 1st Ford Unit

DETROIT, June 19.—The first big election in Ford Local 600, United Auto Workers, took place Wednesday and Thursday of this week in the rolling mill and resulted in a defeat for Frank Tinsley, incumbent president, by John Mando.

The main issue in the building election was the five-year contract which had taken away time-and-half pay for Saturday work and double-time for Sunday work for rolling mill steel workers.

UAW President Walter Reuther gave up the premium pay for two thousand steel workers in the Rouge two years ago in return for the pension plan. The steel workers

have been fighting this ever since. This election saw 80 percent of the Rouge steel workers voting and is a serious setback for Reuther in this first day of the decisive election which will go on for the next two months.

Mando is a supporter of the Ford top officers who were ousted by Reuther recently in a witch hunt.

Upstate Union Parley Maps Actions to Aid Women Workers

SCHENECTADY, June 19.—Fifty-five working women from the production lines of some of the largest upstate New York plants met in Syracuse last Sunday and mapped a campaign against discriminatory practices against women in industry, and set up the drive for equal pay for women in General Electric plants.

The conference was called under the auspices of District 3, United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers (ind). The delegates, meeting in Hotel Onondaga, came from UE shops in Schenectady, Jamestown, Tonawanda, Buffalo, Port Edwards and other areas.

The conference was chaired by Helen Quinn, treasurer of UE

Local 301, Schenectady, with the principal reporter Ernest Thompson, secretary of the national FEPC Committee of the UE. Thompson stressed the common struggle to defeat discrimination aimed at all groups of workers, particularly Negro and women workers.

The conference also heard a speaker from the State Labor Department report that women workers on an average receive only 70 percent of the \$2,500 found to be necessary for a minimum standard for single women.

In the discussion that followed, Sadie Tynella, steward and executive board member of Local 301, said women in the Schenectady plant are paid less than men for the same work. (Continued on Page 6)

Letters from Readers

Pamphlet to Contain 'Books on Trial' Talks

Editor, Daily Worker:

The widespread interest aroused in the recent "Books on Trial" rally at the Hotel Capitol was further demonstration of the profound concern that progressive Americans have in preserving the right of free publishing in the United States. We know that your readers, particularly those who were unable to attend the meeting, will be interested to learn that the eloquent talks made by the panel of distinguished speakers will soon form part of a new brochure on the case of Alexander Trachtenberg, director of International Publishers. It is hoped in this way to reach an ever wider audience with the crucial issues involved in the fight to defend the Marxist classics.

We should like to make grateful acknowledgement of what has been amply evident to readers of The Daily Worker and The Worker, namely the splendid cooperation of the editors and staff of these newspapers in helping to publicize the June 12 meeting in behalf of Alexander Trachtenberg, who together with 15 co-defendants, is now on trial at Foley Square.

JAMES S. ALLEN, Secty.,
Committee to Defend Alexander Trachtenberg

Teachers Give 4-Point Plan To Parties

The Teachers Union yesterday submitted a four-point program to the Republican, Democratic, Progressive and Liberal parties for their 1952 platforms. The Union's program calls for:

A peacetime economy that will provide 10 billion dollars for a 10-year program of federally financed school construction, immediate appropriation of one billion dollars for Federal aid for public schools to raise teachers' salaries and provide textbooks and other materials and services needed by the children, defeat of UMT; increased state and local appropriations for public education; elimination of jimcrow schooling and all other forms of discrimination in education; and repeal of New York State's Feinberg Law and all similar legislation.

Eisenhower Backer Hints At New Party

DENVER, June 19.—Gen. Eisenhower should consider bolting the Republican Party and run on a new party ticket, the chairman of the General's campaign in Colorado suggested here yesterday, if he fails to get a "fair deal" from the GOP convention.

L. M. Paxton said he "certainly would feel released" from supporting any Republican candidate other than Eisenhower who might get the nomination through "railroading" tactics.

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World of Labor

by George Morris

Lewis' \$10 Million Wire And What it Means

AFTER A STRIKE goes on for nearly three weeks, with little more happening than the routine parade of a few pickets outside mill gates, and with all the public attention and noise drawn to congressional debates on how the strike should be broken, the effect upon the strikers is likely to be depressing.

Strikers, like the 650,000 steel workers, have proven in the past that they don't mind squeezing and skimping to hold out as long as it takes to win. But they don't like it to be just an endurance contest. They want to see action and living evidence of the fact that they are part of a united and active force in the steel industry and in the working class as a whole.

For that reason John L. Lewis' wire to Murray was especially timely. It had the effect of a great moral pickup for the men on strike and the coal miners laid off on account of the strike.

I CAN PICTURE a steel worker hearing the news over the radio. His immediate reaction is to say that if another union establishes a \$10,000,000 bank account and says the steel workers can draw on it as much as they need to win, then the stakes must be big, and there must powerful support for his

fight. His determination to stay out until victory is greatly strengthened. His inclination to yield on issues, if he had any, is abruptly ended.

The Lewis wire hit the news on the very day that employees of the U. S. Steel Corp. received letters from the company purporting to tell them of the company's offer rejected by the steel union. But that letter cunningly suggested that the only real stumbling block to a settling for the right of the workers to "decide for themselves whether they will or will not join a union." It was the first instalment of poison designed to condition the workers for strikebreaking and demoralizing moves the company apparently expects to step up at a later stage of the struggle.

The effect of the Lewis letter, therefore, was to first nullify whatever results U. S. Steel's poison may have achieved among especially the non-union workers in the industry. Second, Lewis put the issue—and did it in typical dramatic Lewis fashion and in Lewis language. The issue is the effort being made to invoke the Taft-Hartley Law as a strikebreaking weapon and that the companies are therefore encouraged to defy the workers. If the T-H law is invoked to end the strike wired

Lewis, "it would be equivalent to the creation of a neo-fascist movement in America, of which R. Alphonso Taft, with his jackboots and velvet pants, would be the willing tool and symbol."

THAT'S SAYING a great deal. The issue is not alone the security of the steel union but also neo-fascism.

Unfortunately too few of our labor leaders go beyond seeing the threat to their union and its economic demands. A great deal of wisecrack propaganda tells us that Lewis is really concerned with his own union's strategy, fully aware that if the steel workers lose the chance for a victory for coal miners wouldn't be good. That's correct, and it would be even more correct for many weaker unions to realize that they, too, stand little chance to win if the steel workers lose.

From whichever angle you look at the situation, ALL workers are threatened by this neo-fascist trend in the government and among most of our legislators.

But while Lewis did an effective job of putting the jackboots and velvet pants on Taft, he could have done the same to General Ike Eisenhower. Has not Eisenhower this very week called for the application of the Taft-Hartley Law to break the steel strike? His opinion on the matter carries, perhaps, even more weight than Taft's. He has not yet been exposed as thoroughly as an enemy of labor.

Lewis' show of concrete evidence of what he means by labor unity should also spur a trend of united labor action in general—in support of the steel strikers, against newly-introduced anti-labor bills, and in the elections, especially on a congressional level.

Of Things to Come

by John Pittman

Sweden's Plane 'Incident' Heralds End of Neutrality

THE AIRPLANE incident in the Baltic Sea last Monday has provided the rabidly anti-Soviet forces in our country with another propaganda tool for further gouging the American taxpayer. Secretary Acheson could hardly wait to pronounce the Soviet action in shooting down the Swedish Air Force plane "shocking" and "indefensible." This is not unexpected, since Acheson said the same thing when Soviet fighters shot down a U.S. Navy Privateer in the Baltic in April, 1950; shot down a U.S. Navy P-2V off Siberia's Cape Ostrovaya in November, 1951; forced down a C-47 in Hungary in November, 1951.

And without a doubt, Acheson would have said the same thing if Chinese fighter planes had shot down any of the U.S. Airforce planes which, the Peking government charges, made 316 raids over China and Manchuria from January 1 to March 5, 1952; or if the Czechoslovak Air Force had shot down any of the U.S. planes which Prague says, violated the Czech frontiers 116 times from January to June of 1951.

By now every reasonable American understands that whatever is denied by Acheson must have substantial existence in fact. Especially since such "respectable" Washington newsmen as the Alsop brothers report in the "respectable" New York Herald-Tribune without denial by Washington—that "our long-range aircraft have been flying reconnaissance operations over the Siberian coast since before Korea" (Herald Tribune, June 19, 1952) and that "the Soviet Union is to be

tempted on more than one occasion. Equally, there can be very little doubt that the Navy Privateer shot down over the Baltic a couple of years ago was also on reconnaissance duty," (June 13, 1952.)

And also, when such a "respectable" newsmen as assistant managing editor Stephen White wrote in the June 3 issue of the "respectable" Look Magazine that "this country itself has learned how difficult it would be to strike at Russia, even from European bases. It is an open secret that American planes, by accident and design, have probed the Russian radar screen and have discovered that fast Russian fighter planes rise into the skies long before the probes reach the borders of Russia."

THE SOVIET UNION, in the case of the Swedish Air Force flying-boat shot down last Monday, explained the incident in the same way it explained the Baltic incident of April, 1950, and the Cape Ostrovaya incident of November, 1951. It declared the foreign planes had violated Soviet air frontiers, that Soviet fighters had challenged the invading aircraft and ordered them to land, that the invading craft had fired on the Soviet fighters, and that the Soviet fighters had returned the fire.

The Swedish politicians, like Acheson and company before them, bristled and denied all.

We now know how Acheson and Company used the plane incidents to heat up the anti-Soviet hysteria, to expedite the program of large-scale military appropriations that are fleecing the American wage-earners and of ultimatum-diplomacy which has brought our country to the verge of national disaster. What purpose, then do the Swedish rightwing Social Democratic politicians hope to serve by their airplane provocation?

Their purpose, like Wall Street's and Washington's, is primarily directed against their own countrymen. They have contrived this provocation on the eve of a big "spy trial" directed against the Swedish Communist Party and all other peace forces in Sweden. And this anti-Communist frame-up, so similar to the Washington pattern which has been exported to France, South Africa, Lebanon, Greece, Turkey, and divers other parts of Truman's "free world," is in turn contrived to crush Swedish opposition to these politicians' program for dragging Sweden into the orbit of the NATO set-up.

At the moment, Sweden has joined the so-called "Northern Council," a Scandinavian replica of the Middle East Command, the Pacific Security System, the NATO itself, all inspired by Washington to serve the aims of Wall Street. The airplane provocation thereby serves notice that the Stockholm politicians have terminated Swedish neutrality and have turned over their country to the chief organizers of a third world war.

Press Roundup

THE MIRROR exults over the continued jailing of Jacques Duclos. The reason the Hearstings hate Duclos is plain. He led the French Resistance movement against Hitler's Nazis when they occupied his homeland. The Hearstings don't forgive the heroes of the anti-fascist struggle. Any true enemy of Nazism is an enemy of theirs. Knowing and hating Duclos for his leadership against one aggressor, they hate him all the more for his efforts to halt World War No. 3.

THE HERALD TRIBUNE's Walter Lippmann doesn't want a four-power conference on an "all-German settlement" because it "would be certain to fail." To fail, that is, as far as Wall Street aims are concerned. Lippmann sees as the "greatest political disaster" any "alliance between united Germany and the Soviet Union." He fears that such an alliance is in the cards if it becomes "plain to the German nation that we are unable to bring an end to the partition and occupation of Germany." More, he admits that Washington now has "no serious purpose and with no considered policy to reunite Germany," that the U. S. is "identified with a complacent acceptance of the partition which the Germans will find intolerable and will not tolerate for long." Is this not an admission that the U. S. State Department (to say nothing of Lippmann's Herald-Tribune) has been lying to the American people when it says that, not Washington, but Moscow, is blocking unification of Germany?

THE TIMES' Thomas J. Hamilton reports from the UN how Ernest Gross, with invective, denounced the Soviet Union's alleged "campaign of lies" concerning germ warfare in Korea. Yet only one page away, another Times writer reports that the Pentagon "now holds a superiority" in the "weapons of mass destruction—atomic, biological and chemical weapons, and recently, napalm or jellied gasoline. . . . Why this crude contradiction, which almost daily repeats itself in the Times or some other propaganda medium of Wall Street? It is the reflection of the contradiction inherent in a fascist-minded, aggression-bent Wall Street ruling class, which wants to boast of its plans, wants to use them to threaten the world and the American workers, but at the same time denies them in order to maintain the "democratic" pose under which those plans are masked. So the Times reported the building of Justice Department concentration camps in the U. S., then barefacedly accused the Russians of lying when they mentioned them; boasts of "superiority" in germ war weapons, then applauds the disgusting hypocrisy of Gen. Ridgway, who "swears to God" that he never touches the stuff.

THE POST's Max Lerner, suppressing from his readers the truth about the fascist and anti-Semitic propaganda being spread through the mails about the Rosenbergs as one whose "main purpose was to spread the Communist legend that the American government is anti-Semitic." The irony of Lerner's attempts to demobilize American Jewish and non-Jewish, is that this bowing and scraping does not give him immunity from the pro-fascist, who brand him "Communist" just the same.—R.F.

COMING in the weekend WORKER

T. J. Watson—Let's Make Something Out of This

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BAN BACTERIOLOGICAL WAR

MANY INFLUENTIAL Americans, among whom are the Federation of American Scientists, have called on the Washington Administration to give its word that it will not use germ weapons. The American people are opposed to the use of such weapons, and protest it is a crime against themselves and their honor. It is the American people, as well as the Koreans and Chinese, who now are threatened by the Washington Administration's refusal to pledge its word not to use bacteriological weapons!

For, in effect, Ernest A. Gross, U. S. delegate, told the Security Council of the United Nations on Wednesday that Washington won't pledge not to use germ warfare.

If Gross had said nothing more, this would have been sufficient to convince hundreds of millions of people of the truth of the Korean and Chinese charges that the Washington banker-militarists and politicians are lying when they solemnly deny these charges of germ war.

Yet, Gross did say more, and the more he said the more it became evident that the Washington Administration is on the defensive and desperately trying to cover up its own intentions.

Gross said that by making the charges, the "Communists" were serving notice of their intention to use germ weapons against U. S. troops in Korea. But this sorry argument hardly merits consideration, since germ weapons are anti-civilian weapons and neither the Koreans nor Chinese have shown any inclination to kill themselves. The very fact that Gross had to use such an argument, which the Hearst press dragged up from the gutters, proves the weakness of his stand.

The U. S. is the only major power which has refused to sign the Geneva protocol against germ warfare.

Gross also argued that Washington would not make "paper" commitments. That may be the way the Washington politicians view their own commitments, as indeed the violations by them of the Cairo, Potsdam, Yalta agreements and the UN Charter fully attest.

It is ludicrous for Gross to pose as a defender of "principles" when he reveals to the world that the banker-militarists in Washington are not only flouting all the humane principles of mankind, but in the process reserve for themselves full freedom to destroy millions of innocent women and children with fiendish weapons.

The White House, State Department and Pentagon should hear the people's outrage at the flouting of their will. Demand that the Washington Administration sign the Geneva protocol against germ warfare.

MURDER IN BROOKLYN

(Continued from Page 1)

how many more families must be consigned to the flames before action is taken?

The Brooklyn Tenants and Consumers Council held demonstrations, meetings, circulated petitions and even appeared before the City Council to demand corrective action.

Mrs. Bernice Libuser, executive secretary of the Brooklyn Tenants Council, appeared before the City Council to plead with them against cutting the budget for the Department of Housings and Buildings, warning of just such tragedies as took place at Bedford Ave. But her pleas went unheeded by the city politicians whose callous disregard for the welfare and safety of working class tenants, especially Negroes and Puerto Ricans, is a disgrace to the city.

These same politicians have been contributing to the ghettoizing of Puerto Ricans and Negroes by their support to the policy of razing existing apartment houses, in order to make way for high-rent units. Instead of building low-cost decent homes, the city clears Negro and Puerto Rican families out of apartment houses, and forces them further back into the already congested ghettos in order to supply the rich with luxury apartment houses.

No housing is made available for the poor on the excuse that funds, steel and other construction material are needed for armaments.

New Yorkers, shocked and outraged by this cynical disregard for the welfare and safety of Puerto Rican and Negro families, will not accept the lame excuse of Housings and Buildings Commissioner Bernard J. Gilroy that the inspector who checked the house apparently "didn't think there was an imminent hazard."

Every New Yorker should back the demand of the Brooklyn Tenants Council for a thorough investigation of the Department of Housings and Buildings, arrest and prosecution by the District Attorney of the landlord, Mrs. Beane Honig, to the fullest extent of the law, full compensation for the surviving families and their relocation to decent housing.



A Better World

by Elizabeth Gurley Flynn

By Louis Weinstock, Guest Columnist

FOR FOUR WEEKS, days passed by while stoolpigeon Lautner sat in the witness stand at Foley Square with a smirk on his face, not uttering a single word, just listening to quotations read by the prosecution, —quotations from the works of Marx, Engels, Lenin, Stalin, honored leaders of the working class in all parts of the world.

Looking at the stoolpigeon, it was difficult to find the connection. How does this police spy, this paid informer, fit in with the "Communist Manifesto" written by Karl Marx in 1847, read by hundreds of millions of workers? What has a stoolpigeon in common with the living drama of the "History of the CPSU"? What can the government prove by having a police informer silent in the witness chair, listening to excerpts describing the historic Russian Revolution and the overthrow of the Czarist tyranny? What can a stoolpigeon prove from Lenin's volumes describing the nature of the first Imperialist War?

What impression can a stoolpigeon like Lautner make on history? For a measly \$25 a day and possibly a book he may write, as other stoolpigeons have done, for a few thousand dollars he sits in that witness chair. He is a hat rack—to hang quotations on.

The charge is teaching the advocacy of force and violence. The readings however are not sufficient. Maneuvers are necessary—and I would like to discuss just one here, because it deserves special mention.

ON JUNE 11, the press carried the tear-jerking testimony of stoolpigeon Lautner. After three weeks of testimony, during most of which he sat silent, while the prosecution read those endless distorted quotations, his great day came. Now he offered testimony that was not difficult to understand. The jurors or the Judge didn't have to think hard to figure out what the words meant. It wasn't historical materialism, or dialectics. Instead it sounded like a cheap Hollywood movie. It was in the language of the fantastically comic gangsters' serial, or Flash Gordon space adventure, but so be

confused with space platforms), or even Mandrake the Magician.

It began on a rainy Saturday in Cleveland. On a specified day, at a specified hour, a car drove to the curb and "our Hero" entered the car. Two imaginary unknown characters shoved him into the back seat and pulled his hat down to his nose. It was raining cats and dogs. The car sped towards the Lake Shore. From there, it headed for the industrial section of Cleveland. After an hour, it came to a sudden stop. Lautner was pushed out of the car.

He entered a dwelling. Since his hat was pulled down to his nose, he couldn't see, but he noticed that the stairway led down to the cellar. In the cellar, true to the best comic book tradition, his hat was removed and he found glaring electric lights hitting his eyes, making it impossible to see. But he kept using his imagination.

There were four or five people in the cellar. He heard the spigots in the sink running full blast. Then he was told to undress, remove everything, and to use his language, "I was stark naked."

To quote him further: "They put a tape on my wrist, and a ball in my left hand, connected to some instrument on the ceiling." This mysterious instrument was "a lie detector," said he. Again we quote: "One of the men stood behind me with a pistol at my head." Another man was beating the walls of the cellar with a rubber hose. Two shiny butcher knives were on a nearby table, he added.

Lautner, the Hero, spared no details. Seven times he pleaded with his "tormentors" to let him put his pants on, but to no avail. They kept on beating the cellar walls, and the water was running unmercifully from the faucets. (Shades of Mickey Spillane!) Lautner kept on yelling, but since the noise was terrific, there was a lie detector in operation, water running from the faucets, men beating the walls with a rubber hose, no one could hear him, when he cried "I am innocent."

THIS DESCRIPTION of the... (The Judge, the jury...

the lawyers, even the defendants listened intently, waiting for the climax of the story. And the climax came. With tears in his eyes, deeply moved by his own story, he dressed himself. He was put in a car, taken to the nearest bus stop, and told to take the next bus downtown to his hotel.

He was also told that this session was not complete, that he should meet those mysterious two men next day at 2 o'clock on Euclid Avenue, in front of a restaurant, so that they could enact the second scene of this drama—and then came the punch line! Next day it rained again. Even a dog shouldn't have been out on that street, but Lautner waited for two hours in front of a restaurant for his tormentors. Imagine his disappointment. No one showed up.

I imagine that Lautner, after being expelled from the Communist Party, being discovered as a spy and stoolpigeon, did a lot of cogitating to conceive this fantasy. There was a Chi-There had to be "a cellar" in this one, too.

A QUESTION COMES to mind. What has this to do with the 16 defendants no one of whom he named in it. What section of the Smith Act was violated by this idiotic concoction of Lautner's? Even the most naive person must answer, "nothing." But that story had to be told. The headlines had to be made. And the red baiters, the Communist-baiters and the professional war-makers had a new thriller. The government is hoping for special effects with this cloak and dagger tale, namely that the jury will forget the baseless charges against the defendants and will remember only such horrific lies of Budenz, Lautner, and other stoolpigeons who will testify.

Lautner's memory was remarkable under direct examination by the prosecutor. He remembered every meeting, every lecture he attended since 1929. He remembered imaginary conversations with individual defendants. He named the time, place and subject discussed. He remembered conventions, plenums, resolutions that were adopted. He remembered concentration plans, organization for "underground" activities.

When the prosecution ended his direct examination and the defense attorneys took over to

Drive for Negro Artists' Rights Mapped on Coast

LOS ANGELES.—An all-out campaign for equal rights for Negroes in the Arts, Sciences and Professions is now under way here. One phase is directed at Hollywood Bowl where no Negro artist has been included as a featured soloist in the 1952 program.

The drive for realization of the potential of the Negro people was set off at a Saturday conference for equal rights for Negroes in the Arts, Sciences and Professions sponsored by the A. S. P. Council of Southern California. The day-long conference was key-noted by the determination to "do more than pass resolutions" voiced by Dr. P. Price Cobbs, acting chairman of ASP and a Negro community leader.

Programs for immediate action, Dr. Cobbs said, were necessary if professionals were to adhere to the determination voiced by ASP nationally that "we are resolved that incendiaries shall not burn the Bill of Rights."

Joining Dr. Cobbs in emphasizing the need for a sharp battle to end discrimination in all phases of U. S. life, was radio writer Gene Stone, newly elected executive secretary of ASP.

"The problem," Stone said, "has been posed sharply for us. Either we struggle for a full and free Negro culture or we face the destruction of all U. S. culture."

Conferees divided into panels for the discussion of the effects of discrimination in the fields of mass communications, health, welfare and housing, music, the dance and science and education.

The demand for a campaign to end discrimination practices in Hollywood Bowl was drawn by the music division of ASP, which called for protests on the jimmiecrow practices at the bowl. These protests, the musicians said, should be directed not only to the hiring of artists, but the employment of Negro ushers, ticket takers and office workers.

More than 200 cultural workers present at the conference endorsed a plan of Earl B. Dickerson, president of the National Lawyers Guild. Dickerson proposed to a similar conference in New York that steps should be taken to:

"Embark upon a much broader conference of the same nature and invite the artists, scientists and professionals of Asia, Africa and South America as well as Europe here for an international conference against racial discrimination, to work out plans whereby mutual assistance may be given against this evil, once characterized by the late H. G. Wells as the most poisonous disease to afflict Americans."

Resolutions condemning the stereotyped portrayals of Negroes and other minorities in films, radio, television and other mediums were passed unanimously by the conference, and were supplemented by plans of action or an ending of jimmiecrow policies.

Summarizing results of the conference, Dr. Max H. Schoen characterized it as "but a moment in a continuing struggle."

"We must," he said, "be acutely aware that the practice of democracy in our country is seriously circumscribed and that all of us suffer from a lack of it as long as discrimination against the Negro continues. We must realize that a peaceful solution to the problems of the world today is inconceivable without an end to white supremacy."

LLOYD BROWN'S SPEECH AT 'BOOKS ON TRIAL' RALLY

Speech by Lloyd L. Brown, associate editor, Masses & Mainstream, at the "Books on Trial" rally June 12 at Hotel Capitol.

By LLOYD L. BROWN

Speaking of books on trial, I am reminded of the original culprits. There was a cartoon I once saw, showing a group of little stone-age men, clad in bearskins, solemnly assembled as one of them points proudly to a rock on which he has just chiselled the letter A. "Gentlemen," he announces, "we have just begun a great literary tradition."

No doubt if those little men should ever come back this way, pass by one of our 'drug-store' newsstands and see what has happened to their invention, they would run like mad back to that stone and smash it to bits. Nor would the highest levels of commercial literary display reassure them that their brave beginning was not a terrible blunder.

Take last Sunday's book section of the New York Times:

The front-page article by Professor Irwin Edman of Columbia invites us to become literary ambassadors to Europe this summer. People over there, it seems, have got some wrong ideas about us. They've heard about "witchhunts" among us and the imposition of conformity through fear." Indeed, we do know that word has gone abroad about books on trial and the indictment of publishers like Alexander Trachtenberg. But says the Professor, this is all a myth which many Europeans—"and not by any means those of the extreme Left only"—have come to believe.

The answer? "Arm yourself with the richness of our books, Mr. Edman advises the traveler." Tactfully, he doesn't suggest anything from the best-seller list on another page. But take along Emerson and Thoreau, whom he calls "heroes of corrective dissent."

Now here was an idea of some attractiveness—to be a literary ambassador (not all of us are qualified like O'Dwyer to get the official posts)—and so I was mentally packing my portfolio with the recommended "Essay on Civil Disobedience" when the crushing thought came: the Times writer plumb forgot to tell us how to get a passport!

What to do? Well, take a literary vacation here at home. Elsewhere in the book section co-editor Orville Prescott and his staff thoughtfully listed 125 recommended books to take with you.

The novels—well Mr. Prescott warns you in front that the pickings in this department are kind of slim: "it has been a mediocre year for fiction," nothing outstanding like last year's *From Here to Eternity*. But don't go away: it's a "better-than-usual one for biography and autobiography."

Sure. There's *Witness*, by Whitaker Chambers, "a psychologically fascinating document . . . and



LLOYD BROWN

I Led Three Lives, by stoolpigeon Philbrick . . . and *I Was Stalin's Prisoner* by another one . . . and *My Life in Crime: The Autobiography of a Professional Criminal* by John Barlow Martin—"This last is the frank and fascinating story of a burglar and stickup man."

International Publishers is honored by exclusion. Not a single one of its books is recommended. Not James Allen's new book on the all-important topic Atomic Imperialism, not Finkelstein's latest, *How Music Expresses Ideas*, not the great Douglass biography and collection edited by Dr. Foner, not Foster's epic histories, not Marxism and Linguistics by that world-famed "corrective dissenter," Joseph Stalin—not one of these splendid works is deemed worthy of notice.

Books on trial? Yes, and the Times and the Tribune and the Saturday Review have long ago brought in their verdict—good books are sentenced to oblivion, even as the government tries to imprison the publishers. Foul, degraded, debased books—a must for all readers! Sex, sadism, racism, brutality—specially for the kiddies!

But listen to this: James Aldridge, the distinguished British author of *The Diplomat* and other works, recently visited a great metropolis where, he wrote:

"Stop any child in the street and he'll tell you in ringing terms that he loves all people and despises cruelty and admires culture. He means it too."

"I was especially interested in children's books, and looked through hundreds. Not one had a hint of violence in it; not one had any other emphasis but human dignity, patriotism, education, and kindness toward others. . . ."

That, my friends, is a report from the city of Moscow, in the land of socialism. Yes, we need publishers like International Publishers and Masses & Mainstream, and all the progressive press to bring us such truths about socialism and its fruits.

And let us remember that in all of these defense campaigns, for Trachtenberg and his colleagues at Foley Square, amnesty for Dennis, Davis and the rest, we are not only defending what little freedom and culture we have left, but we are advancing toward the future when a visitor to New York—and to Birmingham, Alabama, too—will be able to say:

"Stop any child on the street and he'll tell you in ringing terms that he loves all people and despises cruelty and admires culture."

Lester Rodney is on vacation.

'COVER THE OLYMPICS' FUND

Enclosed find \$—— to help send the Daily Worker reporter to cover the 1952 Olympic Games at Helsinki.

Name _____

City _____

"LOVELY TO LOOK AT" FILM

The current reissue of the old musical hit "Roberta" at the Radio City Hall, now called "Lovely to Look At" might be more appropriately called "Lovely to Hear," for the charm of its well known melodies is all that the film can really boast of.

The story of the American lad (Red Skelton) whose Aunt dies in Paris leaving him part ownership of a super fashionable couturier is really and truly "old hat," besides being decidedly too pre-World War II in its conception of Parisian life to fit into the scheme of things today.

The face of France and the rest of Europe may change, French cabinets may fall daily, and the people may demonstrate in the streets against the substitution of

Jim Farley's Cokes for their national drink, but Hollywood's Paris is still one grand boulevard where American hoofers perform on top of street cafe tables to the delight of gay Parisians.

One wonders whether Hollywood is suffering from such poverty of ideas that it can't even dig up new ideas for fresh musicals, which used to be one of its ace filmtypes.

Let it not be said, however, that the performers didn't try mightily to make this revival noteworthy. Kathryn Grayson sings her level best, as does Howard Keel.

Marge and Gower Champion put all their efforts into the gaudy dance routines with little thought as to how they fit into the story. —H.C.

'REPORT FROM FORMOSA' IS WAR BLURB FOR CHIANG

REPORT FROM FORMOSA. By H. Maclear Bates. Dutton: New York. 290 pp. \$3.50.

By ROBERT FRIEDMAN

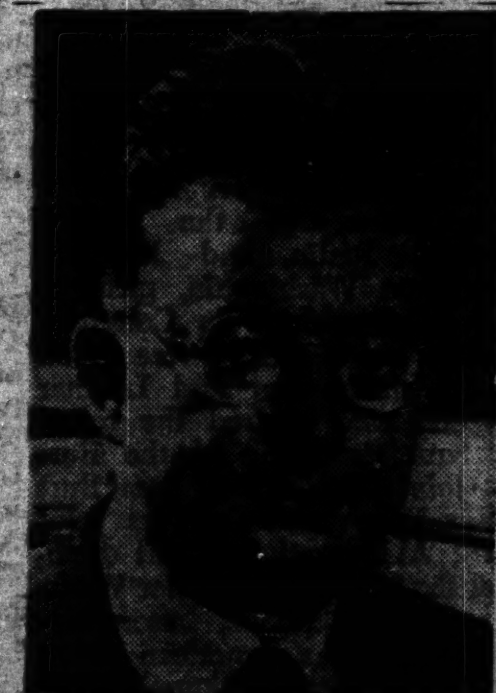
H. Maclear Bates is a British Tory who vehemently opposes the British recognition of People's China and who believes that the present rightist government of Japan, allied with Chiang Kai-shek's forces on Taiwan (Formosa), can and should become the dominant group in Asia.

Given these views, it would be over-optimistic, indeed, to expect accurate reporting and sound analysis from the author's account of his recent visit to Taiwan, "Report From Formosa."

Chiang Kai-shek and his gang are so synonymous with graft, corruption and brutality throughout the world that the author has had to apply a curious method in writing this avowedly pro-Chiang book. He begins by acknowledging all and sundry charges against the Kuomintang clique, and then tries to dissipate their effect by claiming that (a) the charge is exaggerated or (b) that noble Chiang is the victim of naughty behaviour by his friend or (c) that the Kuomintang crime ought to be forgiven because the "Communists" would really be so much worse.

The third of these ingenious apologies is not only totally false, of course, but, in its shocking readiness to forgive any horror so long as it is "anti-Communist," it stands as a symbol of bourgeois morality.

The truth about Taiwan is that Chiang's army lives off the people of the island only because of the military and financial support given the dictator by Washington. The truth about China, as innumerable observers of that country testify, is that it has never been stronger or more united than



I. F. STONE, columnist for the Daily Compass, who will speak at the concert-rally tonight (Friday) at the New Terrace Garden, 2145 Boston Road, Cor. 181 St., Bronx to honor Elizabeth Gurley Flynn, Claudia Jones, Marion Bachrach and Betty Cannett, four women defendants at the Smith Act trial here.



M. KOVALEVA as Natasha, the heroine of the new brilliant Soviet film *Fall of Berlin* which starts its third week at the Stanley.



MOTHER OF SLAIN SEAMAN DEMANDS CAPT. WEAVER, KILLER, BE TRIED AGAIN

By JOHN HUDSON JONES

"He's got to be tried again!" Mrs. Rebecca Pratt, mother of the late William Harvey, was talking about Capt. Franklin B. Weaver, Alabama-born sea captain whose second trial for manslaughter ended Tuesday night when the jury was hung eight to four for conviction.

The bereaved mother told the Daily Worker, "I don't care how many times they have to try him or how much money the government has to spend. I demand justice for the death of my son!"

Mrs. Pratt was getting ready to go back to her home in Dayton, O., when interviewed at the homes of friends in Harlem.

She had sat throughout the two-week trial of Capt. Weaver, who turned the Isbrandtsen Company freighter "Flying Trader" into a blood-spattered death ship as he blackjacked, handcuffed, and then shot Harvey three times.

Time and again she heard seamen eye-witnesses, and the killer himself tell the gruesome tale of that fatal morning, Oct. 25, 1951.

Union Sq. Rally

(Continued from Page 1)

Fisherman and head of the southern fishermen's division of the Fur and Leather Workers drew top applause as he brought greetings from the 5,000 striking Negro fishermen.

Now in the second month of their refusal to sign on fishing vessels, Ball said, "We will stay on the bank until we get a contract. No contract, no fishing."

The solidarity of the fishermen, along several points of the Atlantic Coast, organized less than a year, amazed their employers, he said. They were equally amazed at the arrival of truckloads of food from their northern brothers for the strikers.

Jake Marrachione, of Rome, N. Y., spoke in behalf of the General Cable strikers and Harold Rosenberg, spoke for the striking workers of American Safety Razor in Brooklyn.

Russ Nixon, UE legislative representative, of the United Electrical Radio and Machine Workers in Washington, pictured the anti-labor drive in Congress.

Others who spoke were Leon Strauss, of the Fur and Leather Workers, who chaired the meeting; Sam Freedman of the Furriers Joint Council and Sam Burt of Fur Dyers and Dressers Joint Board; Al Pezzati, regional director of the Mine, and Smelter Workers; Joseph Kehoe, secretary-treasurer of the American Communications Association; Ewart Guinier, secretary-treasurer of the Public Workers, and Rose Russell of the Teachers Union.

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WILL MESS KERNARD • ROBERT MCFERRIN • GERALDINE
INVERSTY • ROBERT MCCORMICK • JEANNE KIRSTEN •
BILL ROBINSON • LARRY ROYER • JOLLY ROBINSON • and others

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For info. Call AL 5-6964 or write 1 Union Square, New York

as the vessel plied the China Sea near Kobe, Japan.

Mrs. Pratt is a woman of great inner strength, and reserve but when the blackjack was introduced into evidence—a black sock loaded with a huge nut and bolt—her anguished exclamation cut the judicial silence of the Foley Square Court room.

And just across the aisle, the mother of the killer, Mrs. Etta Miller of Englewood, N. J. looked uneasy and dropped her eyes.

The deadly "sap" the killer

Serri Elected Head of N.Y. Lawyers Guild

Frank Serri, one of the four attorneys defending 16 Communists in the Foley Square Smith Act trial, was unanimously elected president of the New York Chapter of the National Lawyers Guild. He will succeed Paul O'Dwyer, who sent a telegram from Mexico congratulating Serri on taking the new post.

Serri was elected Wednesday night at a Guild membership meeting in Willie Memorial Hall.

Leo J. Linder, presiding at the meeting, paid tribute to Serri for undertaking defense of the Communists.

"I am in the fight for the long-established traditions of the bar in the spirit of Jefferson, Lincoln and Franklin D. Roosevelt," Serri told the Guild members. "The hysteria that pervades clear thinking today presents a challenge to the democratic forces of this country, which we propose to meet."

The Guild also elected the following vice-presidents: Judge Hubert T. Delany, Osmond K. Fraenkel, Leo J. Linder, Harold L. Phillips and David L. Deissman. Henry H. Wolf was elected treasurer. Simon Schacter was re-elected executive secretary, and Mark Lane administrative secretary.

Serri is a graduate of Yale Law School and a former member of Yale Law Journal editorial board. He was admitted to the bar in 1915 and is a member of the bar of U. S. Supreme Court. He served two years as vice-president of the New York City Chapter of the Guild, is a member of the American Bar Association, State Bar Association and the Academy of Political Science. In 1940-1941 he served as president of the Kings County Criminal Bar Association.

A five-point program adopted by the Guild membership calls for:

- Local action against the American Bar Association's proposal to disbar lawyers for their political views.

- Abolition of discrimination against Negroes in the legal profession and other fields.

- A campaign for social security coverage for self-employed lawyers.

- A program for restoration of First Amendment rights.

- A study of calendar congestion in the New York courts.

said during his first trial, has been made by his wife, Mrs. Anne Weaver, who sailed with him as ship's librarian.

SLANDERED VICTIM

The killer's defense, financed by the powerful Isbrandtsen Co., known for its "bucko skippers," reviled Harvey with the old lyncher's slander that he "went berserk."

U. S. Public Health Service records of venereal disease treatments were brought in by the killer's lawyer Mahlon Dickerson for no other purpose than to prejudice the jury, since even if Harvey had suffered from "dementia praecox" as a professional witness psychiatrist who never saw him claimed, venereal disease would have no connection with it.

"The company thinks because they have money they can get Weaver off light for taking my son's life," declared Mrs. Pratt. "But he's got to be tried again."

"They did everything under the sun to blacken my boy's name," Mrs. Pratt told the Daily Worker.

Of Dickerson's plea to the jury to let Weaver "go home his family," she asked, "how could losing him a few years compare to my losing my son forever?"

Mrs. Pratt has three daughters and another son, "but if he wanted to go to sea I would be afraid now to let him go."

And of Weaver she said, "I know his type. He's a mean ornery cracker who hates Negroes. If they let him go free they might as well let them all run loose to kill other Negroes."

Manhattan Bridge Fire

Flames flaring 100 feet in the air set fire to the Manhattan Bridge yesterday and destroyed a coal pier and three barges on the Brooklyn waterfront.

Subway service over the span was suspended 10 minutes.

15 Socialists Jailed in Turkey

ISTANBUL, Turkey, June 19.—Ezat Adil Mustecabi, leader of the Turkish Socialist Party, and 14 Socialist Party members were arrested today on charges of distributing "communist" propaganda.

Guest Column

(Continued from Page 5)

memory—collapsed completely. Confronted with obvious lies, he had the Budenz answer: "I can't recollect." Questioned about the program of the Communist Party during the years while he was a member, he couldn't recall it. He didn't know under what conditions the coal miners lived during the depression. He was a Party functionary in Detroit, but he didn't know how the auto workers lived. He didn't know the struggles carried on against Negro discrimination, against lynching. He never heard of the fight carried on by our Party for social security, unemployment and health insurance.

His cross-examination is not yet concluded. We are confident that by the time the defense attorneys get through with Lautner, the smirk will be wiped off of his face. Then he will really stand stark naked—before the jury, before the Judge, and before the American people. He will stand convicted as a cheap stoolpigeon, labor spy and provocateur; a Judas Iscariot. He will stand as a reminder to all of the labor movement including Communists to watch out for enemy agents in their ranks.

He will not alter the forward march for justice and democracy.

Honor Smith Act Defendants in B'klyn Sunday

Smith Act defendants will be honored this Sunday at several afternoon and evening dinners in Brooklyn.

Betty Gannett and Arnold Johnson, defendants in the Smith Act trial at Foley Square, will be guest of honor at a Sunday evening dinner at the Coney Island Center, 3109 Surf Ave., under auspices of the Citizens Emergency Defense Conference.

Building trades workers will greet Pettis Perry and Louis Weinstein Sunday afternoon at the East New York Community Center, 608 Cleveland St. Brooklyn.

The Brighton Committee To Fight The Smith Act will sponsor a reception and buffet dinner Sunday at 3200 Coney Island Ave., 6 to 9 p.m. Pettis Perry and George Blake Charney will be the honor guests.

South Korean Assembly Hits Secret Trial

PUSAN, Korea, Friday, June 20.—The South Korean National Assembly today bitterly criticized President Syngman Rhee's plans to conduct a court martial trial of Assembly members behind closed doors.

By a resounding 84 to 0 vote, with 27 abstentions, the Assembly voted Thursday to demand that the press and public be admitted to the trial of 14 men whom Rhee has accused of participating in a "Communist conspiracy."

The 14 were arraigned yesterday on unspecified charges of violating the national security act.

Clarence Rhee, official government spokesman, said today that press representatives will be barred from the forthcoming trial.

Justice Dept. 'May' Study LaBenskey Case, Delegates Told

Hubbard answered.

Justice Department officials "may investigate" the acquittal of Stanley LaBenskey, Westchester County retired policeman who killed two Negroes last March, if NAACP attorneys who observed the recent trial forward their report on the case, it was reported by delegates who visited the Department of Justice Civil Rights Section last Monday.

LaBenskey was acquitted by an all-white jury last week in what the NAACP called a "gross miscarriage of justice."

The delegates to Washington reported acknowledgment by the Justice Department of "a large number of telegraphed demands for federal investigation of the acquittal and other police killings in Westchester County."

During the delegation's interview with A. A. Cauldwell, head of the Civil Rights Section, Jean Taylor, Negro woman leaders and co-chairman of the Committee for Justice in the Blackall case, declared that every responsible authority in New York State, including Gov. Dewey, had been petitioned to take action against 36 unpunished incidents of police killings and brutality against Negro citizens in the past three years.

"Yet the last time we saw Kent Brown, Dewey's assistant," she said, the only action he could take was to insult us with an anti-Negro epithet—"a n—r in every woodpile."

Miss Taylor asked Maceo Hubbard, former Negro attorney of Philadelphia and now an assistant to Cauldwell, "What do you think should be done with such an official?"

"I think the Governor should have him impeached or removed,"

Despite delegates' insistence that the Justice Department could move under the Federal Civil Rights Statutes, Cauldwell replied that "there is no federal law against murder."

Mrs. Agnes Doe, Harlem parents' leader, asked, "What shall I tell the people of Harlem happened here today?"

Cauldwell, with a smirk on his face, replied, "You can say Jean Taylor gave me hell."

Miss Taylor shot back, "No, I didn't give you hell this time. . . . But if we have to come back here on another genocidal murder of Negro citizens, the people will do more than just give you hell."

Other delegates included Abe Weisburd, treasurer of the Committee to Secure Justice in the Blackall Case; James Garry of United Electrical Workers Union, Local 1227; Arnise Botis and Mary Williams of Queens CRC; Gertrude Seldes of the Emma Lazarus Federation; Peter Myrill of the American Communication Association; Terrence Hollingsworth of the Furriers Joint Board, and Marilyn Lion of the Student Division of the Labor Youth League.

What's On?

Tonight

CLUB CINEMA presents "Great Expectations" with John Mills, powerful Academy Award winner from C. Dickens novel. Two showings from 8:30 p.m. Social from 10 p.m. 439 Sixth Ave. (nr. 9th St.) \$1 for members, \$1.25 for non-members. Air cooled.

A MESSAGE TO ALL NEW YORKERS!

Will you be in town on Sunday, June 22nd? If so, you can have the time of your life by attending the colorful

HUNGARIAN FOLKFESTIVAL AND PICNIC

on the Glorious cool CASTLE HILL GARDENS, right on the banks of the Long Island sound. (Temperature always 15 percent lower than in the city) THE PICNIC WILL TAKE PLACE ALL DAY. There will be a thrilling program featuring:

Leon Bibb — Les Pine — Betty Sanders and dancing to the tune of a fine Hungarian-American Gypsy orchestra

Treat yourself to the culinary wonders of world famous Hungarian Barbecue (lacipecsenye), Goulash cooked on open hearth, Golden brown pure beef Hungarian Hamburger (fasirt), served with renowned genuine Hungarian wines, Tokay or Badacsony or freshly tapped beer. For dessert you may treat yourself to world famous Hungarian strudles filled with succulent cherries, nuts, apple, or molasses or cheese, or an endless variety of home baked delicacies baked direct for this occasion by members of the Bronx Hungarian Women's Club. All of these at remarkably low prices!

DIRECTIONS: To Castle Hill Ave., Bronx — Take 127 Pelham Bay Line to Castle Hill Ave. Then proceed to the end of the line, EAST on the SOUND. (It's only a 5 min. walk to the picnic grounds.)